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JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

The GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Society's House, in Pall-mall-square, at Eleven o'clock in the Forenoon, on SATURDAY, the 13th of December.

LECTURES will be delivered before the Members, in the Room of the Society, on the evenings of the previous Wednesday and Thursday, of which the arrangements are completed; further information will be given.

By order of the Council.
JAMES HUDSON, Secretary.

London, 7th Nov. 1848.

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FOREIGN nations, jealous of the superiority of the United Kingdom, have been too apt to ascribe her powers and importance to the local and incidental advantages of her mineral resources. There can be no doubt that these have aided in acquiring for a country so insignificant in territorial extent the political status of a first-rate power; but there are other and equally important causes which have combined to produce this happy result. In actual extent of coal area Britain does not exceed that of many other countries. The less explored area of the coalfields of the United States is about twelve times greater than that of Great Britain; and the possessions of the latter in America boast of more than twice the area of coal possessed by the mother country. Spain has probably a larger area of coal than Britain, although the known coalfield is not yet recorded as reaching half the extent of that in this country. The great superiority of Britain as a coal-producing country does not, therefore, so much depend on the actual quantity of her coal as on its fortunate distribution and its ready accessibility by sea. This local advantage gave an immense superiority to the manufacturers of England,—and enabled them to compete successfully with native produce in the most distant parts of the world.

The facilities of communication between nations have, however, increased so amazingly within the last century, that this mere fortuitous advantage of England has much diminished in importance. The simple cost of fuel bears so small a proportion to the labour employed in the production of the textile manufactures, that foreign nations are now able to compete with England not only in their own countries, but also in foreign and distant lands where she once possessed a monopoly of commerce. This result, happy for the industry of the world, though injurious to our individuality as a nation, has arisen from the circumstance that the expense of fuel, though increased by an export duty and freight from this country, is balanced by the diminished cost of labour,—especially when that is joined to superior taste and skill. It is in fact so obvious to all governments, except our own, that the whole contest among nations must in future depend upon the superior adaptations of science to production, that practical education and scientific discovery are above all things cherished by foreign states.

But besides the employment of capital and skill in manufacture, it is equally necessary that competing nations should be able to effect a speedy and economical transport to the markets where there is a demand for the supply. The advantage of steam transit has, therefore, occasioned researches to be made for fossil fuel in different parts of the globe; and marvellous have been the riches which Nature has bestowed upon those who have thus thrown themselves upon her bounty. The transport of coal from this country to our distant colonial possessions has not been found sufficient for the wants of commerce; partly owing to its deterioration by the voyage—a loss amounting to 100 per cent. on its value—and partly owing to the great expense of transit. It has, therefore, become a necessary condition for the extension of steam navigation over the globe, that the resources of countries situate

in its different parts should be developed, so as to constitute great natural coal depots for the promotion of steam communication,—and as a reflective good to promote the industrial capabilities of these lands themselves.

We hail, then, with pleasure the appearance of a work which professes to gather together and to systematize the scattered information respecting the fuel of different countries. The labour of such an undertaking is immense; but its successful completion must command at once universal attention and approbation. Deficiencies we are prepared to expect and to allow for: unequal acquisition of statistical details is certainly an inevitable consequence of labour in a field so extensive. But at the same time we have a right to demand that the author of a work such as this shall have to the best of his ability gone to original sources for his information—especially when these are easily attainable—and that his statements shall thus bear the stamp of authority. The title-page informs us that the information is all derived “from official reports and accredited authorities;” but, unfortunately, the statement is not confirmed by an attentive examination of the authorities quoted. As an example, the only information given with respect to the important acquisition of coal in Labuan is derived from a popular account in *Chambers's Journal*,—while the works on Borneo and Labuan in which the coal is fully described and its analysis and properties are given have not been consulted. In describing the important coalfields of our Indian possessions, the details are chiefly taken from detached notices,—while no reference is made to the important and systematic labours of the Government Committees who have published two valuable Reports, one of them in 1837, the other in 1845. We might multiply to an unlimited extent the proofs of this careless selection of authorities;—but content ourselves with one other instance. In giving the statistics of accidents in the mines of the United Kingdom, tables from unauthorized and unacknowledged sources are brought forward, and the authorities, when referred to, are found to be either periodicals, such as the *Mining Journal*, or foreign accounts, as M. Piot's papers in the *Annales des Mines*. The author either has not known the existence of, or if he has did not trouble himself to refer to, the elaborate Parliamentary Reports of 1835 and 1845,—or to the carefully drawn up Report of a Committee appointed at South Shields, published in 1843.

This carelessness of research on the part of the author deprives his work of much value,—and renders the reader suspicious as to the fulness and accuracy of detail in those parts, with which he is less acquainted and on which he is seeking for information. The work, however, appears to have been compiled in America, although it bears the name of an English publisher; and this circumstance renders the author less culpable for his ignorance of official reports printed in this country.

The statistics of the increase of the coal trade in London will be read with interest. The amount of Welsh coal and culm brought to London has increased 145 per cent. in nine years. Scotch coal has, on the contrary, decreased 100 per cent.,—while the augmentation in English coal has been 26 per cent. The following curious information shows the rapid increase of the coal navy.—

“Towards the commencement of the business two ships were sufficient to supply the city with coals. In 1615, 400 sail were employed in the coal trade, one-half of which number supplied the demand of London. In 1703, 600 ships were employed in the London coal trade. In 1841, 6,873 collier brigs were employed in the home and foreign coal trade

of the northern coalfield only. In 1840, the tonnage of colliers in the River Thames amounted to 2,628,323 tons. In 1825, there were 6,564 ships' cargoes entered for duty at the port of London. In 1846, 10,488 ships' cargoes, and, the previous year, 11,987.—The largest quantity of coal sold in the London Market in one day took place on the 21st of October, 1844. There were 282 cargoes, amounting to upwards of 80,000 tons; in all, 340 cargoes were at market, only 58 of which remained unsold.”—p. 263.

As the average price of coal in London is rather above 20s. the ton, this one day's business represented 80,000*l.* sterling. Since 1845, however, the price of coals has diminished, and now averages about 16s.

The following table, reduced from the squares in page 26 of the Introduction, shows the annual production of coals in different coal-producing countries.—

Great Britain produces annually	31,500,000	raisons.
Belgium	"	4,060,077
France	"	4,141,617
United States	"	4,400,000
Prussia	"	3,500,000
Austria	"	700,000

The estimated value of the coals raised in Great Britain is 9,500,000*l.* sterling; while that of Belgium, France and the United States is each about 1,500,000*l.* The coal trade of the latter country is, however, yet in its infancy; there being 133,132 square miles of coal formation, while Great Britain possesses only 11,859 square miles.

We are in possession of more recent and accurate statistics with reference to the South Wales coalfield than can have been presented to the author,—and we are glad to bear testimony to the fulness and precision of those which he has collected. The annual consumption of coal in the Swansea or South Wales district is 4,350,000 tons;—an estimate not widely different from that of the author, who makes it 4,800,000. Of this quantity, 1,500,000 tons are consumed in iron works, and 550,000 tons in copper and tin works. At the present rate of consumption—the coal area, being taken at only one eighth of its real extent, would furnish a supply for above 1,400 years.

A question of much importance to the exporters of coal is the relative space which a ton of different kinds of coal takes up in the hold of a ship. The difference between two coals of equal value in other respects is sometimes as great as 20 to 25 per cent. The author of the work now before us (p. 274) gives 78·945 lb. as the weight of a cubic foot of English coal. This, however, must refer to one cubic foot of unbroken coal:—the weight of the coal as supplied to the trade being never greater than 70 lb. and more commonly only 50 lb. We would refer the author for much information on this subject to the Admiralty Coal Report, published at the beginning of this year.

By far the best part of the present work is the description of the statistics of the American coalfield. Here the author seems at home. The increase of the coal trade in America is as rapid as her resources are enormous. “The United States' coal area is one seventeenth part of the entire area of the States, and one fourth part of the aggregate area of the twelve principal coal States” (p. xix.) Already the amount of coal and anthracite produced in the States is about one seventh the quantity used in and exported from this country. We are unable to follow the author into his elaborate statistics of the New World:—but we willingly bestow upon them our commendation, and refer them to the attentive perusal of those who are interested in the development of the industrial resources of America.

The work of Mr. Taylor, notwithstanding

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its deficiencies, will command attention and become standard as a reference:—especially as it is the only one which endeavours to concentrate the knowledge diffused through so many separate channels, and often attainable only in the countries to which the statistics refer. We do not doubt that it will reach another edition:—and in this belief, we would strongly recommend the author's greater attention to typography. In a work on statistics, above all others, typographical errors are unpardonable. Where gross misprints meet the eye in every part, there is no confidence that the figures denoting the statistics are not as carelessly corrected in proof. As an example of negligence in typography, let the author refer to page 708; where in five consecutive lines he will find Gay-Lussac's name three times spelt wrong and differently:—thus, Gay Lusac, Gay Lusat, Gay Lusak. We also expect in another edition to find a greater reference “to official reports and accredited authorities” than we have been able to do in the present. We doubt not that many of the most important statistics, when the authority from which they are derived is not quoted, are really drawn from official documents; but when we see equally important statements given on the authority of journals of no celebrity, or from the anonymous contributions of newspaper correspondents, we do not feel inclined to yield that implicit confidence which a statistical work, to be useful, should certainly inspire. The book in its present form is a grateful addition to statistics:—in an improved state it will become an indispensable work to the coal producers and consumers of this great empire.

The Elixir of Beauty: a Book for the Toilet-Table. Clarke.

No interference with Lady Blessington's annual being hereby meant, we beg leave to introduce a hand-book of Beauty! Such a casket of dainty devices, indeed, was certain to follow the more substantial offering of M. Saussure [*ante*, p. 313]. “Politeness should have dictated, the ladies first,” as Mr. Twigg might have said. But the precedence was not of our marshalling; and courtesy being satisfied by protest, we will “sit” upon this manual with a respect due to the theme and to those whom it is intended to profit.

A puzzle detains us at the outset. Can this homily, which is anonymous, be some sibylline leaf by the favourite of Miss Burney's “sweet Queen,”—good Mrs. Trimmer? Why else should the author have “downed” the spirits of Lily, Rose, Violet, and Lonicera* by reminding these and all other Flowers of Loveliness that Goodness is better than Beauty? Miss Lambert knows that they worked that lesson years ago in cross-stitch on their samplers.—

Fair may the Rose be, but she fades with time,
The Violet sweet, but quickly past its prime, &c.

They got it by heart in their catechisms. They are aware that grass is green; and—not looking for a repetition of the fact—were expecting toilet-talk and cosmetic counsel. Far more to the purpose is it that they should be furnished with an exact list of defects such as they can remedy:—

“Such as stooping, carrying the head on one side, neglecting the teeth, taking insufficient air and exercise, turning in the toes, frowning, giggling, even squinting, pouting, and making faces. A dreadful catalogue, which our duty compels us to notice.”

More valuable instruction of a like quality follows. Ladies are apprised (p. 19) that “by thinking” harmonies of feature may be pro-

duced. The snub-nose of a *Corinna* is a vastly different thing from that of a *Cressida*. At p. 24, Beauty may tremble when she hears that, “under the influence of certain passions, as indifference, contempt, or unconcern, the surface” of even a *Tulip-Cheek's* complexion “becomes dry and contracted, and will frequently present that appearance which is commonly known by the name of goose-skin.”—We always knew that “*Don't Care* came to a bad end,”—but the awful particulars were never till now laid before us. But Stout is to be as much deprecated as Scorn:—the drinking of porter being denounced (p. 29) as “apt to give too much colour.”

The distiller of our Elixir wages war against caps; and, with Macassar sympathies, thinks long corkscrew ringlets apostolic and beautiful when “they fall unconfined and free over the snowy shoulders and swan-like necks of our British fair.” Possibly so:—but they are also a trifle in the way, except they be carried in the hand, after the fashion of Mrs. —, the inimitable songstress, when she warbled ‘The soldier tired.’ Nor are we to be “knocked down” by Baily's ‘Eve at the Fountain,’ picturesquely cited as an example. Paradise is one place—Piccadilly another. But our considerate author has in some small measure provided for the inconvenience adverted to. Beauty is to be indulged with “a light bonnet” when “engaged in domestic affairs,”—such as the whipping of cream—or children.

Balsamically (the word is Madame D'Arblay's) are the teeth, the breath, the smile here moralized: but space forbids us to follow the toilet-teacher. We agree with his *dictum* regarding shoe-soles:—also that no interest is attached to wet feet, in spite of Beauty's perverse conviction to the contrary. On the subject of dress he is unpardonably vague. Could Moral Suitability's self have dreamed that a treatise like this could have been issued with never a word (to express our meaning circuitously) on the subject of *Crinoline*? Then, as to “making-up,” his views are anything but decided. Page 90 contradicts page 59 on the lawfulness or unlawfulness of wearing rouge:—a vacillation to be blushed for. Our author is hardened and consistent enough in countenancing kindred figments and pigments. He can recommend Beauty, if she be carrott or when she grows gray, to “submit to a pleasing transformation” and dye:—never hinting at consequences so trifling as headaches, weakened sight, *et cetera*. Nay, further, he holds it “in some instances excusable” to doctor the eyebrows! A code so utterly devoid of consistency staggers us. Shaken in our faith, we give small heed to this Elixir-monger's law laid down in the case of pink and blue shoes:—and what is worse, we hold cheap the artistically studious “Lady of his acquaintance” whom he trumpets as having been a model-dresser, and whose manner of procedure was as follows:—

“Her manner was, in the beginning of the year, to have her face drawn in a little oval, extremely like, and without flattery: she had many dresses painted on a sort of ingslass, which she could clap upon the face of this oval, and observe what colours or subdivision of colours best became her complexion. I have seen her make the same face bear a becoming sadness, a downcast innocence, a heedless gaiety, or a respectful attention, according to the different lights and shades that were thrown upon it by the application of the several dresses round the head and neck.”

This cannot be a lost treatise by Mrs. Trimmer, but rather the work of a downright Pharisee or Loyola! The nature and goodness of the pattern-excellence just described slap our author's prefatory maxims in the face somewhat sharply. *Basta!* There is no safe conduct in this book. Let *Pulcheria*, if she would slay club-men and torture Belgravian women, confide herself to her

maid and her milliner, and put to the door such a Mr. *Worldly-Wiseman* as this:—who, we suspect, in spite of all his “simplicities,” carries in his pocket some Circassian Nigrine or Turkish Jet Pencil “warranted to baffle Discovery's self.”

Narrative of a Campaign against the Kabyles of Algeria: with the Mission of M. Suckert to the Emir Abd-el-Kader for an Exchange of Prisoners. By Dawson Borrer. Longman & Co.

We close this book with feelings of profound melancholy. It is enough to disturb our faith in human progress. Is this the middle of the nineteenth century; and can such things as are here related be yet possible? The entire history of French dominion in Northern Africa reads like a passage from that of the twelfth century; except that the religious ideas of the Crusaders, the one principle which shed a sort of romantic glory round their sufferings and their cruelties, are now substituted by the mere vulgar love of conquest—conquest unredeemed by any ultimate and grander aim. The “Liberty” which the French “soldiers of civilization” have carried into Africa has hitherto been the licence of a horde of Goths—the “Equality” the right of plunder—the “Fraternity” a good fraternal hatred. No wonder that the Arabs love their conquerors!—and, in one sense, not an unfitting retribution is it that the African Generals are now masters of France!

The razzia into the country of the Kabyles was undertaken by Marshal Bugeaud, during his command in Algeria—the professed object of the expedition being to open up a communication by land between the settlements of Seif, Bougie and Algiers. It was announced as a pacific march, in France; where, nevertheless, it met with so much opposition that M. Guizot's government commanded Marshal Bugeaud to lay aside his design. The African soldiers of France are not, however, much inclined to defer to the home authorities,—and the Marshal commenced his march. Mr. Borrer, who was then in Algiers, obtained leave to accompany the column:—and the result of his adventures and observation is the book under notice. Before we come to more diabolical scenes, let us extract this significant note.—

“About 3 p.m. the Marshal arrived, and the troops from Blidâ having already joined, the column was soon once more *en route*. No sooner did the cavalry begin to move off than numerous *Andas* came on the ground to scrape up with infinite care such corn as might have been left by the horses. It was astonishing to see the patience with which these poor wretches picked out, grain by grain, the barley from amongst the trampled herbage. One old grey-headed son of the prophet, with the assistance of an aged hag, had collected in his burnoose at least a gallon; and, perceiving that I regarded his gleanings with an eye of curiosity, ejaculated ‘Mackash man-geria,’ by which he meant to inform me that he had nothing to eat. The fact is, that the last harvest was very scanty, the locusts having ‘eaten up the land’; and this, combined with the miserable state they are reduced to by war and by the injustice of the French administration with regard to them, has rendered even a grain of corn valuable in their eyes. Many of these blighted beings, who descend like vultures to glean what may have been left by the horses of a passing troop of cavalry, were once proprietors, perhaps, of that very soil upon which they now gather the husks with fear and trembling. Many of them are members of tribes that have not only bowed to, but fought for, their invaders, who, in return, have deprived them of their lands, in many instances without indemnity; reducing them thus to utter starvation, or forcing them to retire to more remote parts, where the arms of the ‘Christian civilizers of North Africa’ do not yet prevail.”

The truth of these observations is supported by documents:—and were it needful we could

* “Why Lonicera wilt thou name thy child?”
I asked the Gardener's wife in accents mild.
“We have a right,” replied the sturdy dame,
And Lonicera was the infant's name.

add many proofs to those cited by Mr. Borrer. Having penetrated into the Kabylie, a country at peace with France, the Marshal gave the inhabitants the choice of unconditional submission or fire and sword. With a courage which ought to endear these patriots of the Atlas to a chivalric nation, they accepted the latter : and considering that they are not disciplined and well-armed like their adversaries, their defence of their homes and burial-grounds does them no discredit. In the night, a favourite period for military operations amongst the Kabyles, they attempted to storm the French entrenchments.—

"The sun had now set; the short twilight was succeeded by darkness ; the main bodies of the Picquets herded around their watch fires; whilst the advanced sentinels kept their dangerous guard. Ever and anon the wild blasts of the sirocco brought to our ears the yells of the Kabyles, as they danced round huge fires lit upon the hills: for they had gathered together vast masses of brushwood, and their sombre forms might be distinguished, as they flitted about the flaming piles. Then, at intervals, from the gloomy slopes of the hills flashes of fire burst forth, succeeded by dull reports, and the sharp rattle of French muskets, directed towards the spots from whence the Arab shots had proceeded. All now was still for half an hour or more : the heavens glared with the mountain fires, but not a yell or a shot was heard: it was a dead silence broken only by the sighing of the wind, as it swept across the camp in fitful gusts. This was but a suspicious lull, however; and about 8 P.M. the storm burst forth in all its fury. A hellish yell from a thousand throats at once accompanied by furious volleys poured in from all sides, announced as combined and vigorous attack upon the various outposts. It was a glorious moment. The dark veil of night was rent by unceasing flashes of musketry; the fierce cries of the French soldiery mingled with the unearthly howls of their assailants, as the latter, baffled and repulsed by superior discipline and determination, were forced back into the covert; from whence again they would presently dash forth with renewed shouts, responding to the encouraging war-cries of their women, who, collected about the fires upon the heights, stirred up the fierce flames, singing the glorious deeds of the warriors of their tribe. In spite of their determined bravery, the outposts, after repeated and gallant struggles with their numerous foe, were compelled to fall back upon the 'grand gardes.' This raised still more the spirits of the assailants, who, rushing madly on every side, were only repulsed by vigorous and repeated charges of the bayonet. About this time orders were issued for the tents to be struck, and the troops to lie on the ground; for showers of balls were whistling and falling in every direction,—sources of thoughtless mirth to those to whom they were not directed; for every narrow escape, every shave of the whiskers from these leaden messengers of death, begot a volley of jests and sarcasms from the groups gathered about the smouldering camp-fires. *En passant!* one of the whistlers seemed to have been billeted for myself; for having rolled a stone near one of the fires to serve me for a pillow, my head was no sooner placed upon it than an envious Kabyle sent a bullet, which, striking the stone within a few inches of my pate, almost made me swallow the cigar in my mouth. Had it arrived a minute sooner, it would probably have gone through my head, which had been reposing upon the same spot before the luxury of a pillow had seduced me to seek the friendly aid. * * During all this time a hot fire and repeated attacks had been kept up. The atmosphere was laden with clouds of choking smoke, from the incessant pouring forth of gunpowder. But little loss was suffered in the camp; though it appeared afterwards that the Kabyles (from the fact of the troops lying down, and from the silence which prevailed in the camp,) imagined that they had pretty well accomplished their threat of 'wiping us off the face of the earth.' By one o'clock there were symptoms of the ammunition of our assailants becoming low, and of their being fatigued with their numerous and fruitless endeavours to break through the 'grand gardes.' An occasional volley was still poured in; but as the moon rose the enemy gradually retired;

a few only of the most adventurous hanging back and taking parting shots. One of these, armed with a large brass blunderbuss, or Spanish 'trabuco,' loth to leave his slaughtered comrades until actually compelled, fired about the last shot, and closed this nocturnal attack with his life; for a French bullet passed through him, and a bayonet pinned him to the ground, almost as soon as he had pulled the trigger. His dying yell rang on high, and passed away with the night-breeze, and all was again silent. 'Those of our brothers who fall in defence of the true faith are not dead but live invisible, receiving their nouriture from the hand of the Most High,' says the Prophet."

Unable to meet the invaders in the open fields, the mountaineers dispersed to their villages,—where they were cut up in detail: *how,* the following account of an attack upon one will exhibit.—

"Still advancing by extremely rugged tracks, the rocks in some places forming perfect mountain-stairs, with deep ravines on one hand or the other, we came within sight of three villages lying close together, overlooked by a fourth in the background, crowning the very summit of an extremely lofty mount,—a spur in fact of a range of heights behind it, but presenting on our side a conical face of most difficult access, up which an Arab track, winding like a corkscrew, might be discerned, alive with numerous fugitives toiling towards the summit with slow and difficult steps. Several towers in the neighbourhood of these villages were garrisoned with enraged mountaineers, thirsting for vengeance, but aware that their only hope lay in the commanding stronghold above mentioned. Continual puffs of smoke issued from the towers, and bullets rattled about us. It was but a dying struggle! The villages in the foreground were soon gained, the troops advancing '*au pas de course*', as well as the nature of the country would permit. For the cavalry it was difficult enough, the slopes about these mountain homes being divided into plots by low walls of loose rocks thrown together. Dashing the spurs into our horses' flanks, upward we drove, however, at a heavy gallop, every man following according to the ability of his steed. Some cleared the rocky divisions; some floundered over them; others bit the dust, horse and rider, but always on the right side. More than one thick-pated trooper will long remember how he tried the mettle of the rock with his skull that day. It was a hard ride, but an exciting one. The villages were all surrounded with walls of about twelve feet in height, and composed of stones cemented together with mud mingled with chopped straw, a strong fence of thorny bushes crowning them, and impenetrable hedges of the prickly pear growing along their base. The inhabitants fired chiefly from the loop-holes pierced in these walls and in the walls of the houses. Upon the terraces of the latter also might be seen picturesque groups of gaunt warriors, their flowing beards thrown back as they handled with activity their long guns. In one of these last villages some half-dozen of them boldly remained, after the great body of their comrades had fled, in a large square building commanding the entrance of the village on the side we approached, and kept up a determined fire at '*bout portant*' It was all to no avail, however; the narrow streets were soon crowded with French troops, ravishing, massacring, and plundering on all sides. Neither sex nor age was regarded; the sword fell upon all alike. From one house blood-stained soldiers, laden with spoil, passed forth as I entered it. Upon the floor of one of the chambers lay a little girl of twelve or fourteen years of age: there she lay, writhing in gore and in the agonies of death: an accursed ruffian thrust his bayonet into her. God will require him. In another house a wrinkled old woman sat crouched upon the matting, rapidly muttering, in the agony of fear, prayers to Allah, with a trembling tongue. A pretty child, of six or seven years old, laden with silver and coral ornaments, clung to her side, her eyes streaming with tears as she clasped her aged mother's arm. The soldiery, mad with blood and rage, were nigh at hand. I seized the fair child: a moment was left to force her into a dark recess at the far end of the building; some ragged matting thrown before it served to conceal her; and whilst I was making signs to her

mother to hold silence, soldiers rushed in: some ransacked the habitation; others pricked the old female with their bayonets. 'Soldiers, will you slay an aged woman?'—'No, monsieur,' said one fellow, 'we will not kill her; but her valuables are concealed, and we must have them.' In nearly every house were jars of oil (for the Kabyles make, consume, and sell vast quantities,) often six or seven feet in height, and ranged in rows around the chambers. Holes being rapped in all these jars, the houses were soon flooded with oil, and streams of it were pouring down the very streets. When the soldiers had ransacked the dwellings, and smashed to atoms all that they could not carry off, or did not think worth seizing as spoil, they heaped the remnants and the matting together and fired them. As I was hastily traversing the narrow streets to regain the outside of the village, disgusted with the horrors I witnessed, flames burst forth on all sides, and torrents of fire came swiftly gliding down the thoroughfares; for the flames had gained the oil. An instant I turned, the fearful doom of the poor concealed child and the decrepit mother flashing on my mind. It was too late; who could distinguish the house amongst hundreds exactly similar? The fire was crackling, blazing with increased fury, and there was no time to lose. The way of the gateway was barred with roaring flames. Scrambling to the terrace of a low building, I threw myself over the wall. The unfortunate Kabyle child was doubtless consumed with her aged parent. How many others may have shared her fate! * * * All that was not borne away by the spoilers was devoured by fire or buried amidst the crushing ruins; and then the hungry flames, vomited forth from the burning habitations, gained the tall corn growing around these villages, and, running swiftly on, wound about and consumed the scattered olive-trees overshadowing it. Fire covered the face of the country, and the heavens were obscured with smoke."

These are the "holy bayonets of France," as M. Michelet calls them, wielded by the "soldiers of civilization!" There are other details, if possible yet more revolting:—but we throw down the pen in sorrow and disgust.

Reminiscences of my Life—[*Erinnerungen aus meinem Leben*]. By Gustav Kombst. Leipzig, Herbig; London, Dulau & Co.

THE writer of these fragments prepared them for the press at the turning-point of an erring and troubled career,—when about to enter, as he thought, on a calmer existence in the country where he had sought refuge. He died, however, in Edinburgh, where he had just obtained a creditable position as a teacher, before his book was published; and the work which was meant to close his reckoning, as it were, with the issue of his political adventures in Germany only, now appears as the whole legacy of a life sadly wrested out of bias by the action of evil times on a character made up of ill-assorted elements. The serious reader will find, in its tracings of the course of a political outlaw, and of the dispositions and causes that made him such, matter enough for reflection:—nor is it without materials that may amuse the mere seeker for entertainment. Sketches of early life and personal adventure, and notices of individuals with whom Kombst was allied or came into accidental contact, enliven the pages written to describe his political grievances, to vindicate his conduct, and to recount the history, as he viewed it, of the democratic refugees whom the measures of German governments drove into foreign lands. The book, therefore, may be surveyed on two sides: either as the fragment of a memoir, written in a lively style and full of incidents and actors,—or as part of a chapter in a portentous history which is even now unfolding itself in a manner that the author little anticipated, when a premature death forbade him to witness from a safe distance the scene in which his turbulent part was already ended.

Gustav Kombst was born of a creditable

family, at Stettin, in 1806. His father had been a cavalry officer, and was distinguished for dashing valour in the field and jovial manners in the camp that endeared him to his comrades; but after the peace he was tamed by entering the civil service. Young Kombst, having gone through the usual course of study, was introduced into the diplomatic career under favourable auspices; but seems, by his own confession, to have entered life with dispositions wholly unshinged, and principles loosened in all directions by the various influences to which he had been exposed in three universities where he had successively studied. Not that he was himself aware of the injurious tendencies which he describes, even when reviewing them in maturer years:—but the particulars which he sets down of his experiences, views, and connexions, and the glimpses thus afforded of his personal character and of the circumstances by which it was moulded, leave no doubt as to the untoward state of mind in which he began a practical career. We discover an ardent, hasty temper,—unsettled notions, which had been thrown into ferment by the contrast between ideas of liberty and the individual dignity of man (*Menschenwürde*) gathered from classical authors, and the visible constraint that ruled over all parts of actual life in Germany: to which must be added the leaven of some far more questionable elements, with which his college relations were tainted,—any further notice of which we must avoid with unfeigned repugnance, as the only repulsive part of his story. Beyond these impulses we find an irritable vanity, fostered in boyhood by the hints of a maternal grandfather, who used to dream of nobility and estate belonging of right to the family, but wrongfully kept from it. The course of events makes it clear enough that in the character thus formed, and cast as it were into rebellion, not a single truly democratic element existed; and that the real source of his quarrel with authority was an impatience of being denied what he deemed himself entitled to demand—in a nature far more intent on bringing down to his own level those to whom he felt himself equal, than on raising those who may have been unfairly kept below him. Indeed, he expressly allows this to have been the case, and in more than one passage insists on the “aristocratic tendencies” of his nature. A strange foundation this for liberalism in the manner of “Young Germany”!

With all these flaws, however, his nature appears to have been a brave and generous one. His rupture with his chief, Von Nagler, the Prussian envoy at Frankfurt, was provoked by what he thought an injustice done by that minister—a harsh and unyielding man—to one of his colleagues in an inferior station. Upon this—not without personal causes of difference also,—he quarrelled with Von Nagler; and a recourse to head-quarters having failed to procure him the redress he thought due on the occasion, he applied for discharge from the public service. This was refused; and Kombst thereupon resolved to take what is called “French leave” both of the service and of the territory of Prussia,—where, indeed, he could not well have remained safe in defiance of the ministry at Berlin. Without a passport, he escaped over the frontier, and got into Switzerland; then the rendezvous of nearly all the Germans whom political offences, or the adoption of liberal or democratic views—severely repressed by the German courts—had made exiles. So far the affair, whatever else may have belonged to it, might be deemed an act of imprudence, of virtue, or of necessity, as the subject may be variously regarded. But Kombst, unfortunately, did not take flight with clean hands. On quit-

ting the Prussian Chancery, he carried off copies of some important political documents,—which were afterwards published, through his means, in Switzerland, and which he could only have obtained by a breach of duty. He does not himself appear to feel the gravity of the offence which he then committed: and asserts that the order for his apprehension as a criminal refugee was issued by the Berlin police some weeks before the publication of the stolen documents took place. In this we cannot see any palliation of the fact of his taking them: while it is likely, moreover, that the police at Berlin had obtained knowledge that the papers had been abstracted—papers the divulging of which Kombst himself declares “would have overthrown any ministry in France or England.” The career of democracy thus inauspiciously begun brought nothing but misery, heart-burning, and disappointment to the exile. His own worldly prospects, of course, were ruined for ever: his mother died of a broken heart on learning the disgrace of her son. The men amongst whom his lot was now cast, whether German democratic exiles or native Swiss republicans, he describes in anything but inviting colours. Disunion, violence, and suspicion were busy amongst them; and not a few of those who joined the body proved to be spies, either officially employed by the German governments or volunteer betrayers of the cause. Of its purity and justice Kombst appears to have felt no doubt, and he devotes many pages to its vindication; but we may see—by his narrative of the conduct of those with whom he attempted to act, and of his own difficulties and quarrels while trying to maintain himself and to promote the liberal movement by pamphleteering and editing newspapers here and there,—that from such efforts and with such elements no real service to any kind of liberty that sane or honest men can desire could possibly proceed. Such is the sum of what may be gathered from Kombst’s experiences; and it is all the more emphatically proved because he has no intention of drawing any such conclusion, while his statements demonstrate it. Indeed, the circumstance that he himself gave up the trial, whether from necessity or in despair, and after attempting for some time to maintain himself in Paris finally took leave of revolutionary or “Young German” projects on reaching Great Britain—where he began a course of unambitious labour,—might prove that he was, in fact, disenchanted of his illusions before he left the Continent: while some pregnant remarks on what he saw in these islands will show, at all events, how widely his practical views of politics became changed after he had seen for the first time, face to face, the living body of sound constitutional liberty as it exists in England. What, then, is the conclusion to be drawn from this picture—from the futility of these boyish attempts at the overthrow of states? Not, surely, that there was no need of change, because the actual movers for change were inexperienced, headstrong, foolish, and unsuccessful. Nor, even, that their signal failures, their lamentable sacrifice and ill-advised plans, were altogether without result; inasmuch as we are witnessing at this day how deeply their spirit has affected the movement to which, after all their repressive efforts, the rulers of Germany have nevertheless been forced to yield. Far different, we apprehend, will be the decision of a considerate mind. Viewing the acts of power, on the one hand, and on the other the kind of men to whom those very acts gave weapons of assault, in connexion with what may now be seen of their fruits, it may well be felt how deeply the hopes of rational freedom have suffered from both:

and while we regret that the cause of reform—where reform was certainly needed—should have been asserted by men, or rather by shrillings, neither consistent nor wise enough to have applied it efficiently, nor moderate enough to have been satisfied with its application within reasonable limits, we must also perceive that the charge which the German sovereigns will have to answer at the bar of history for their actions and measures between 1816 and 1835 is that of having thrown such a cause into the hands of such partisans as these,—by rendering it impossible for any one to strive for political amendment except in the character of an outcast from settled order. Their refusal to suffer the approach of change in any lawful form condemned it to the state of a mutiny against law; and the story of this sad error is not yet told to the end.—But to pursue its later consequences so far even as they have already gone does not belong to our province,—which excludes such topics when they pass from the region of history into the sphere of the politics of the day.

Of the rest of poor Kombst’s career it may suffice to say, that he married a young German girl in Paris, under circumstances as little sanctioned by prudence or common usage as were any other events of his life. She had been many ways unfortunate, and was pining in extreme wretchedness when Kombst became attached to her. She accompanied him to England; but soon gave signs of the havoc which anxiety, want, and suffering had wrought in her mental frame. After a period of depression and melancholy, she became hopelessly insane; and at the time of her husband’s death had long been an inmate of a lunatic asylum. Kombst himself, as we have said, was established in Edinburgh, with fair prospects of a quiet maintenance as a teacher, when a premature death closed the prospect as it began to grow a little clearer. He had learnt in his fortieth year to see the futility of his past life:—and this record is the sole fruit of his experience.

Having thus reviewed the serious side of his reminiscences, we shall gather from them a few of the ingredients which relieve their generally sombre and unpleasing character. The first that we shall take are not of the lightest kind,—but they illustrate the author’s mental training. It will be noted that his observations on England belong to the latest and ripest period of his life; and that he viewed it through a medium presented by what he had seen and suffered elsewhere.—

The regard for legal order is deeply rooted in the Germanic nature, and is an indispensable condition of all flourishing and expanded growth in a commonwealth. It is therefore the more distressing on this account to see this feeling of respect severely tried by demands too large for human patience to endure, or abused, if not for the moment crushed out, by the arbitrary dealing of authorities. How gratifying is it to a lover of order and justice to see the readiness with which, in England, all classes hasten to assist the officers of the public force whenever this may be needed. The instant a constable cries out, “Stop him!” the fugitive has a crowd of people at his heels and in his way, and he has no chance to escape. On the Continent, every man is sure of receiving from bystanders or passengers all possible aid should he be pursued by the police. But in England, the police has never acted otherwise than as the guardians of public safety and the preserver of order:—abuses of its authority are impossible, because the character of the people would not endure them. Everywhere on the Continent respect for the law has been shaken to its very foundations by the fault of the governing bodies. This is not the place to pursue the parallel further. But it is a proud feeling to belong to a people that can restrain itself in the full consciousness of its liberty and power: and whose government, however inclined, must respect both the people

at large leave of so long whatever vehemence activity their security this res nations matters unknown write as author either. highest is allow the most quietly and distinctly the most who kn Earth. Of I following markal that K dence of politi do not at the “friends” For r mind, a in and th that br on all t the last my pro the Like th has hap before t felt. I and viol ground, the peo bigotry usages on near from F selve land an while th days I that Engtion! in the u bare liv also, an at first * * I more a view of scale, th this self strength verse is first tim pendence people caricatu there g action to mans plant al civilization of self sighted have so Britain first go thing th regulated arts of p favour exhaust plagues

at large and each individual member of it, and leave every one to take the course he likes best, so long as he keeps within the bounds of law,—whatever be the displays of vivacious energy, the vehement motions of opinion, or even of eccentric activity, in the masses. The people are conscious of their strength, and the Government is strong in their security proceeding from that consciousness. In this respect the two united give an example to all the nations of Europe. Here, trials of the press for matters of obnoxious opinions (*Tendenz-prozesse*) are unknown. Chartists and socialists may speak and write as much as they like.—[The limits drawn by the author in 1845 had not then been transgressed by either.]—The most lively attacks on individuals of the highest station are borne with equanimity; and *Punch* is allowed to do his pleasure with pen and graver in the most merciless fashion. Yet all goes on its course quietly. The Briton often goes to bed grumbling and discontented with his rulers; but he rises on the morrow with the cheerful confidence of a man who knows that he belongs to the freest nation on earth.

Of later impressions from this country the following is the most comprehensive and remarkable. In a previous chapter we find that Kombst had discovered, "since his residence in Great Britain," that "mere changes of political systems and constitutions on paper do not suffice to make a free people:"—and at the close of the book he thus addresses his "friends in his German home."

For more than a year past, I have often had in mind, and have told my friends by word of mouth and in writing how I congratulate myself on the fate that brought me to Great Britain. When I reflect on all that has befallen and influenced me during the last seven years, I can hardly wish—as far as my progressive development is concerned—to have been thrown into a different course of circumstances. Like the faithful in the Bible, I may exclaim "All has happened to me for the best." But it was long before the acknowledgment of this could make itself felt. I have had to reach it through bitter sufferings and violent struggles. When I first trod on British ground, I was repulsed by much that I perceived in the people: external coldness, reserve, ceremonial bigotry, selfishness, strongly moulded aristocratic usages and manners. This is the effect they produce on nearly all strangers, those, especially, who come from France; and, above all, on the French themselves. I have heard French republicans curse the land and the inhabitants of Britain a thousand times while they were living here in exile; but even in those days I was often inclined to smile at their assertion that Englishmen are centuries in arrear of true civilization! Now think of the condition of a stranger here, in the utmost distress, forced to struggle hardly for a bare living;—and the various influences of climate also, and it will be easily imagined that I felt myself at first anything but comfortable in Great Britain.

** But in course of time my mind grew ever more and more awakened and strengthened by the view of this nation, of this popular life on the grandest scale, this stirring activity, this manliness, fearlessness, this self-possessed confident advance, this well-trained strength, this commanding spirit, for which the universe is scarcely spacious enough. Here, for the first time in my life, I saw what a sense of independence and liberty can achieve in a vigorous people: in Switzerland and France I had seen only caricatures of both. In place of aversion and hatred there grew within me, in time, liking and a disposition to envy a nation that—greater than the Romans—makes its conquests, not to destroy, but to plant all over the world seeds of civilization. This civilizing process, it is true, may wear the appearance of selfishness for the moment, and to the short-sighted;—but only look at India, which the ignorant have so often called a stain on the history of Great Britain! It is scarcely eighty years since the English first got a firm hold of that country; and how everything there is already pressing on towards a well-regulated administration! towards peace, and the arts of peace,—where, before them, the people of that favoured soil were plundered by robbers, drained to exhaustion by their princes, desolated by national plagues of all kinds, and exposed an easy prey to

every warlike destroyer around them. And what seeds of new states and new civilization has not England scattered in all directions during the long thirty-years' peace! What have other nations done in comparison? And wherever the Englishman goes, thither Freedom accompanies him. These seeds will spring up, and some are already growing; and perchance hereafter when in Europe all may have fallen into the deep night of barbarism, when this glorious Albion herself, the mother of such sons, may be sunk into decay, even then, not the name of England only, but her spirit also, and her institutions will yet fill the universe, and emancipate nations that now have scarcely a distant idea of the light that is coming to them from the West. What a prospect—to name but one instance—for China! But here I must pause, lest I should be accused of exaggeration and unbounded partiality for a country in which I have found a shelter and a second home. To be brief. In a country whose inhabitants are by nature prone to moderation, *I, too, learned to moderate my wishes, exertions, and expectations*, to become, in short, more modest. Among cool observers and practical men, I was often made to descend from ideals to the common realities of things. But from this I gained the advantage of better understanding men and their circumstances as they are. My whole disposition is practical; but in Great Britain I first found a wide field of objects on which to exert myself. I had to frame for myself anew an existence and reputation. For here I was nothing, had nothing, knew no one. In Great Britain, too, I got altogether rid of the purely ideal and subjective. I have more and more thoroughly learned that there are diagonal lines of the mental powers, as well as of opposed physical forces; and that it is wiser to take so much as circumstances allow us to attain or command, than to reject at once what may be attainable because it may not be the highest and best of possible things, nor especially, that particular thing we had fixed our thoughts upon. I am also become more tolerant; and no longer demand impossibilities measured by an abstract scale. No longer a zealot, no enthusiast of the common sort, nor inclined to play the apostle without being called to the office:—but still full of warmth towards all that is good and noble, and a fearless combatant and defender—*when ever there may be just cause before me*. In one word, the large and many virtues of the English people have aided the development and maturity of whatever of manly and effectual lay in my own nature. And for this I shall ever feel sincerely grateful to them.

We have quoted this, not merely because of its eloquent panegyric, but because it illustrates many things in the general history of minds that grow up into mutiny against authority in nations where authority studiously represses their development,—and contains, if rightly considered, a lesson of abundant significance. We may now proceed to glean from the book a page or two of the lighter sort.

Of Kombst's father, as dashing hussar, mention has already been made. He led one of the troops of pursuers who completed at Waterloo what Wellington began; and came back loaded with other things besides the glory of the campaign. Napoleon's travelling carriage was captured and plundered by a Silesian *landwehr* regiment.—

Many precious articles they cast on the ground, in recklessness, or mere ignorance of their value. Eye-witnesses have assured me that the roomy carriage contained many ornamental jewels, such as rings, bracelets, gold chains, &c., designed, it was supposed, as presents for the fair ladies of Brussels. These valuables, together with precious stones, unset, were many of them inclosed in silver boxes. The soldiers, ignorant of the value of the stones, threw them away; but pocketed the caskets, saying, "These will be good to put blacking in!" Precious things of all sorts were to be had cheap. Silver plates from Napoleon's travelling service at five francs each; rings, gold chains for as little, often for even less. Colonel Schill (brother to the famous partisan), who commanded the Silesian regiment that captured Napoleon's carriage, succeeded in collecting all the

pieces that belonged to the table service. He regales his guests, to this day, on solemn occasions, on plate stamped with the Eagle of the Empire. My father, too, secured for a trifle several rings and a gold chain. Of the rings he afterwards gave many away, as the ladies never ceased tormenting him for them; one, however, with the miniature of Frederick the Great in fine cast-iron set in gold, was long worn by my mother. ** I may add, while speaking of the memorials of that period, that in our dwelling-room at Stettin there hung more than half-a-dozen engravings, which had once belonged to the Empress Josephine's summer Palace of Malmaison, from whence my father had brought them home. He had rescued them from the hands of soldiers who were going to wrap up bread and butter in them. He had also brought, for a present to my mother, a quantity of beautiful green silk fringe, which had decorated the curtains in the Empress's bed-chamber. This was at first regarded as a valuable relic, and carefully preserved: afterwards, when time had lowered their value by rendering them more familiar, my youngest sisters wore the fringe on their mantles.

Here is a characteristic anecdote of the soldier of a more heroic kind.—

It was, I think, on the 16th of June, 1815, that my father met with the following adventure. The hussars were in possession of a village. It was terribly hot; and as everything seemed pretty secure, my father thought he might for once undress and give himself a thorough washing. On a sudden, while he was standing quite naked, the trumpets gave the alarm; the outposts, driven in, came plunging through the village; a mounted division which was stationed there was hurried away with them; the hussars in the houses made haste to horse and followed their flying comrades. My father had scarcely time to think what he should do before the French cuirassiers dashed into the hamlet. Thereupon he drew the bolt across the door, and hastily throwing on his shirt, takes his sabre between his teeth,—and then proceeds composedly to dress himself,—resolved to sell his life dearly. It was a fixed principle with him not to suffer himself to be taken. Meanwhile, a minute or two being past, the cuirassiers come hastening back through the village, in full flight, with the Prussians at their heels; and my father, soon mounted on horseback again, joins them in the pursuit.

The experience of a refugee peculiarly "wanted" by the police as to the efficacy of the passport system—abhored by harmless pleasure tourists, whom it delights to torment—is worth noting.—

I have, some five or six times, made long journeys with borrowed passports, under borrowed names; and more than this, I have lived, in Paris even, for nearly a year under an assumed name, without having been discovered. I have been by turns an Englishman, a Scot, a Pole, a Swiss, an Italian—landed proprietor, military man, jurist, and artist—and have gone successfully through all these assumed parts and national characters, without possessing in the least degree the talent of an actor or a mimic; and at times when I have been described on every post and corner, laid wait for, watched, and expected. On one occasion, when travelling as a Pole, I could not even speak a syllable of the language as owner of which I represented myself; and in addition to this, in the diligence, fell into the company of a Russian consul,—to whom, however, I designed to speak but a few words, and those in French only. I never found any great difficulty in providing myself with passports; and this always in a perfectly simple way,—viz. by some one else going to order the passport I wanted, or by my friends procuring me one already issued for another party, and previously used. By these means I have thrown myself unconcernedly in the way of troops of gendarmes, and rural guards, and gate-keepers,—and uniformly evaded their pursuit.

We have now dwelt long enough on the contents of this book:—the perusal of which, on the whole, is rather painful than inviting. It is nevertheless an instructive, and in places an amusing, volume. The Germans, we may remark by the way, seem now to be taking the

business of writing personal memoirs out of the hands of the French; while the style of their autobiographies is growing more terse and lively as this class of productions is enlarged. The composition of the narrative parts of the work before us is pointed and close enough for the most impatient critic; and it seems not impossible that in course of time the long periods and involutions which used to be the pride of prose in Wieland's day may happily disappear altogether from German writing, in obedience to the golden example of its greatest author—Goethe.

The Voyage and Shipwreck of St. Paul; with Dissertations on the Sources of the Writings of St. Luke, and the Ships and Navigation of the Antients. By James Smith, Esq., of Jordanshill. Longman & Co.

No man can read the narrative in the Acts of the Apostles which Mr. Smith has undertaken to illustrate without being satisfied that it is an honest recital by an eye-witness of a real series of events. Looking at the history merely as history—in which character only it is the province of the *Athenæum* to deal with subjects of the kind—it is evident that the writer was not a professional seaman, and had only so much knowledge of nautical affairs as might be picked up from conversation with sailors by acute observation. The verification of such a narrative must be derived from other navigators who have followed the same course:—and to apply such a test in this case was Mr. Smith's primary object.

The only disputed point of any moment connected with the voyage of St. Paul is as to the locality of the shipwreck. Was it in St. Paul's Bay, in Malta,—or on the island of Meleda, in the Adriatic? To solve this question, Mr. Smith examines minutely the hydrography of the entire course:—and we think that he has established conclusively, though perhaps not indisputably, that Malta has a better claim to be considered the hospitable place of the Apostle's reception than Meleda or any other island of the Adriatic. We shall not enter into the minute nautical and geographical details by which Mr. Smith supports his view of the course taken by the ship that carried St. Paul. On some of these points we deem his conclusions a little hasty,—more especially as regards his identifications of Cretan localities; but to discuss his accuracy would require space greatly disproportioned to the interest or importance of the investigation. The real controversy depends on the third part of the voyage between the Aegean and the Adriatic. If Mr. Smith be not mistaken from beginning to end, the winds and currents must have drifted the ship towards Malta. This view is supported by a curious calculation of the time that would be required to bring the vessel to St. Paul's Bay;—which Mr. Smith, in conformity with local tradition, declares to be the locality of the shipwreck. As this evidence is quite new, we shall adduce it,—though we regard it as corroborative rather than conclusive.

In order to ascertain what might be supposed to be the mean rate of drift of a ship circumstanced as that of St. Paul's was, I consulted two nautical friends, both of them at the time commanding ships in Valetta harbour, and both of them familiar with the navigation of the Levant. To the first of these officers whom I met with (Captain W. M'Lean, R.N.), I put the question, 'What would you say would be the probable amount of drift of a ship hove to in a gale of wind?' His answer was, 'That depends on the force of the gale and the size of the ship.' Upon explaining that I considered it a large ship, even as compared with modern merchantmen, and that the gale might be reckoned as one of mean intensity, he said, after considering the matter, that speaking in round numbers, forty miles in twenty-four hours

might be reckoned a fair allowance. I put the same question to Captain Graves, R.N., who replied,—'From three quarters of a mile an hour to two miles an hour.' The mean of these extremes is thirty-three miles in twenty-four hours, and the mean of both estimates is thirty-six and a half miles in twenty-four hours. I come now to the time elapsed. It is quite clear from the narrative that St. Luke counts the time from the day the ship left Fair Havens. We hear of the 'third day' (v. 19); the preceding is termed 'next day,' which brings us to the first day, both of the gale and the voyage. It is also clear that the events of that day must have occupied a large portion of it. The time consumed in driving through the Sea of Adria, from the time they left the island of Claudia till they became aware of the vicinity of land at midnight of the fourteenth day, is, therefore, thirteen days complete and a small fraction. But the distance from Claudia to the point of Koura, where I suppose that this happened, is 476·6 miles; which, at the rate as deduced from the information of Captains M'Lean and Graves, would take exactly thirteen days, one hour, and twenty-one minutes. The coincidence of the actual bearing of St. Paul's Bay from Claudia, and the direction in which a ship must have driven in order to avoid the Syrtis, is, if possible, still more striking than that of the time actually consummed and the calculated time."

Mr. Smith next examines the most common objections to this identification: and first he notices the mention of the viper,—a reptile not now found in the island. He says:—

"Upon this point I would merely observe that no person who has studied the changes which the operations of man have produced on the Fauna (animals) of any country, will be surprised that a particular species of reptiles should have disappeared from that of Malta. My friend, the Rev. Mr. Landsborough, in his interesting excursions in Arran, has repeatedly noticed the gradual disappearance of the viper from that island since it has become more frequented. Mr. Lyell, in quoting the travels of Spix and Martius in Brazil, observes,—'They speak of the dangers to which they were exposed from the jaguar, *the poisonous serpents*, crocodiles, scorpions, centipedes, and spiders. But with the increasing population and cultivation of the country, say these naturalists, these evils will gradually diminish; when the inhabitants have cut down the woods, drained the marshes, made roads in all directions, and founded villages and towns, man will by degrees triumph over the rank vegetation and the noxious animals.' Perhaps there is no surface of equal extent in so artificial a state as that of Malta is at the present day, and nowhere has the aboriginal forest been more completely cleared; but it by no means follows that this was the case when St. Luke wrote. Indeed, we have proof that it was not; for the narrative informs us that the animal came out of a bundle of sticks which St. Paul had gathered. We need not therefore be surprised that with the disappearance of the woods, the noxious reptiles which infested them should also have disappeared."

A more complete answer is given to the objection, that the Maltese would not be called 'Barbarians' in the age of the Caesars. The Greek writers applied that epithet to all nations whose languages they did not comprehend: so that when the historian says 'the barbarous people showed us no small kindness,' he merely intimates that the fact of their not understanding each other's language did not prevent the exercise of hospitality.

Most readers will probably prefer the incidental dissertations,—especially that 'On the Ships of the Antients,'—to the more prominent subject of this volume. Mr. Smith has examined this topic—which antiquarians have perplexed rather than elucidated—with a practical sagacity that renders his reasoning equally clear and convincing. We shall select those portions which have most novelty, and at the same time throw most light on classic narratives of voyages. Our attention is first directed to the general shape of ancient vessels.—

"The forepart of the hull below the upper works

differed but little in form from that of the ships of modern times; and as both ends were alike, if we suppose a full built merchant ship of the present day, cut in two, and the stern half replaced by one exactly the same as that of the bow, we shall have a pretty accurate notion of what these ships were. The sheer or contour of the top of the sides was nearly straight in the middle, but curving upwards at each end, the stem and stern posts rising to a considerable height, and terminated by ornaments which were very commonly the head and neck of a water-fowl bent backwards. This was called the *cheniscus* (*χηνισκός*). It forms the stern ornament of the ship on the tomb of Nevelia Tyche at Pompeii, the stern post of which terminates with the head of Minerva. Lucian, in describing the Alexandrian ship, mentions that the stern rose gradually in a curve surmounted by a golden cheniscus, and that the prow was elevated in a similar manner. In the coins of Commodus we find the cheniscus, in some instances, the head, and, in others, at the stern. The bulwarks round the deck appear to have generally been open rails. There were projecting galleries at the bow and stern. The stern gallery is often covered with an awning, as in the ship on the tomb of Nevelia. The galleries at the bow served, as it would appear from Lucian's description, as places where to stow the anchors and also the *στροφεῖα* and *περιπλωγεῖα*. The exact meaning of these terms is not clear. Some think they meant instruments for heaving up the anchors, others for helping the ship round. I think it not improbable that both were meant. The *στροφαί*, 'winders,' were probably windlasses or capstans. We have evidence that both were used by the ancients, for in the ship of Theseus, represented in one of the paintings found at Herculaneum, we see a capstan with a hawser coiled round it; and in a figure of the ship of Ulysses said to be taken from an ancient marble, in the edition of Virgil, 3 vols. fol., Rome, 1765, we see the cable coiled round a windlass. The *περιπλωγεῖα*, 'drive abouts,' were probably paddles for the purpose of helping the ship round, when 'slack in the stays.'

Mr. Smith adds that ancient ships were not steered by rudders,—but by two great paddles, one at each side of the stern. We believe that this was not uniformly the case. The Nile boats depicted on the monuments have generally a single rudder. But it must be added, that many of the errors respecting the naval affairs of the ancients have arisen from confounding river and sea navigation. What should we think of a historian who should try to illustrate the construction of a man-of-war from the description of a coal-barge?

All authorities seem agreed that the rig of ancient vessels was very simple. They chiefly depended on one great square sail, to which the rest of the canvas was merely subsidiary. We know of no evidence to support the general belief that the ancients commonly used topsails:—indeed, we doubt whether these were ever employed save as auxiliaries to the mainsail. But the greatest difficulty connected with the naval affairs of the ancients has been as to the disposition of the rowers in the war-galleys: and as we believe that Mr. Smith has to a great extent solved this much perplexed problem, we shall quote his solution without curtailment.—

"The row-boats to which we are accustomed have only one rank of rowers. Such boats are not adapted for the antient mode of fighting at close quarters. The oars would impede the free motion of the soldiers on the decks. To allow of this, a platform or gangway must be laid above the oars and along each side of the vessel. This may be a complete deck, in which case it must be higher than the heads of the rowers; or it may only extend a short distance from the side, not covering the rowers, in which case the height need only be such as to allow free motion to the handles of the oars; or it may partly or wholly project over the side of the vessel, in which case it need be a very little higher than the row-locks. That the war-galleys of the antients must have had such gangways we might have inferred from the necessity of the case; but it also distinctly appears from an-

cent coins, pictures, and models. From these it appears that the gangways generally projected to some distance over the side of the vessel. In combat this gangway or platform must have been cleared of oars; but this was the exceptional case. When not actually engaged in combat, the gangways were disposable for the purpose of rowing; and if oars were placed so as to dip into the water in the intervals between the oars of the men below, they would not interfere with those; and here again we might have inferred, independently of ancient authorities, what is however amply confirmed by them, that when the ships were not engaged in combat, and particularly when speed was of vital consequence, as in pursuit or flight, there was a second tier of oars pulled from the gangways. Thus, then, we arrive at the conclusion, almost independently of ancient authorities, that war-galleys must have been fitted to row with at least two tiers of oars; the upper tier, or thranites, being employed in rowing when not engaged in combat; the lower row, or zygites, rowing at all times. In the case we have supposed, each thranite is placed above, and nearer the side of the vessel than the corresponding zygite. It will, however, be easily seen that the two tiers of oars may approach still nearer to each other, when the rowers in the lower tier are nearer the side of the vessel than those in the upper tier. They may then be placed so that the handle of an oar of the upper tier may work as it were in the lap of a rower of the lower tier; and as the oars are moved in the same direction in the same time, a comparatively small vertical and horizontal distance of the row-locks will keep the handle of the oar of the rower of the upper tier from striking the hand of the rower of the lower tier who is behind him, or the head or back of the rower of the lower tier who is before him. Thus, then, a third tier of rowers, the thalamites, may be added at a very small distance below the zygites; and if the zygites are supposed to sit on benches placed on the deck, and the thalamites on the deck itself, the height of the vessel would not be increased by the introduction of the thalamites. The thalamites will be placed immediately under the thranites, but covered by the platform or gangway on which the thranites sit. These ranks do not therefore interfere with each other within the vessel; and if the oar-ports are so placed that the oars of one rank dip into the water in the intervals between the oars of the other, they will not interfere externally."

This arrangement is in perfect accordance with all the representations of war-galleys on ancient coins and medals,—and is perfectly practicable in the case of a trireme: but we doubt its perfect applicability to the case of a quinquereme; and we are not quite satisfied that the modification suggested by Mr. Smith—the placing of the fourth and fifth banks of oars in the gangway—is sufficient to meet the difficulty. We have, however, no better suggestion of our own to offer.

The dissertation "On the Sources of St. Luke's Writings" is more ingenious than satisfactory. The theory that St. Mark's Gospel is a direct translation from a gospel written by St. Peter in the Aramaic dialect has little external evidence to support it,—and is, we think, contradicted by internal probabilities and by a comparison of the Gospel with the recognized Epistles of St. Peter. Why Peter should have written his Epistles in Greek and a gospel in the less known Aramaic is a greater perplexity than any that Mr. Smith has undertaken to solve. We cannot see that anything is gained for biblical criticism by imagining that there existed any Hebrew or Syriac original used by the first three evangelists as a historical authority. The Greek language was more prevalent in Palestine than the Syriac in the apostolic age: it was the language of law, of government, and of commerce. St. Paul's address to his countrymen in Hebrew is noted in the Acts of the Apostles as an unusual and remarkable circumstance. Christ's Syriac exclamation on the cross was unintelligible to the greater part of the surrounding crowd. There is no mention

of an interpreter being employed on any one occasion by the Roman authorities with whom he and his disciples came into contact:—and hence we conclude that if any original document had been prepared by one or more of the Apostles as a kind of remembrance, it would more probably have been written in Greek than in Aramaic.

It is a novelty to find practical seamanship applied to the elucidation and illustration of ancient voyages. Hitherto, the critics on such subjects have been mere landsmen:—for the union of the sailor and the scholar is one of the rarest of combinations. Mr. Smith possesses a varied extent of nautical and geological attainments, and is besides a ripe scholar. We trust that he will apply the principles which he has here established to removing some of the many difficulties that beset the history of maritime progress and discovery in the classical ages.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Victim of the Jesuits; or, Piquillo Alliaga: a Romance. From the French of Eugène Scribe. By Charles Cocks. 3 vols.—Availing ourselves of a Spanish dramatic term with amplifications, we may truly say that the French have of late produced some of the most eminent novels of the "cloak, sword, mask, and phial" which the world has ever seen. The manufacture of Chinese balls is simple compared with the wheel-within-wheel complications of the works turned out from the *atelier* of M. Dumas. This Romance by M. Scribe is another rare specimen of the school—a tale not to be laid down when once commenced, yet not to be finished without positive bewilderment and exhaustion. We recollect a novel (was it by Mr. James?) in which the hero got on horseback ten times at least in each of the three volumes. There are American romances, again, by Mr. Fenimore Cooper, in which the pale-faced heroine is captured and recaptured some dozen times at least by Crow or Hawk, or Grizzly Bear, or other Redskin "fowl or bair." But the most intricate of the family is meagre and nakedly simple when set beside such a master-work as this. Jesuits, Grand Inquisitors, Moors, a King, a Queen, a nameless boy, two mysterious ladies, all manner of Grandees, a jewel of a brigand, countless accessory characters mingle in the "mazy dance";—and fortunate is it for us that the circumstance of the work having already been published piecemeal in one of our periodicals absolves us from the necessity of "calling a single figure." The incidents are dovetailed with true French neatness of hand:—the fault of the tale lying in their superfluity. Character, of course, is hardly to be expected in a work of this kind,—but the Jesuit Escobar is a finer Jesuit than the Jesuit Rodin of M. Sue's extravagant and powerful novel.

The Golden Garland of Inestimable Delights. By Mrs. Sherwood and her daughter Mrs. Stretton.—This is the history of a boarding-school, the management of which is transferred from an ambitious woman of the world to a pair of such ladies as Mrs. Sherwood and Mrs. Stretton love to portray. Of course, our acquaintance with the disciplinary practices of the *Miss Cranes* and *Miss Pinkertons* who train peeresses in embryo and tolerate *Becky Sharps* cannot be very minute. The Mysteries of "Seminaries" are Eleusinian. But we cannot help feeling that anything much more fantastically absurd than the invention of this story has rarely been committed to print. We think it can hardly be warranted by custom;—but if such transactions as Mrs. Brandreth's be common, the sooner our Women of England take the matter in hand the better for our daughters and for our sons' wives!

The Memoir of Sarah B. Judson. Member of the American Mission to Burmah. By Fanny Forester. With an introductory notice by Edward Bean Underhill.—This is not the first Mrs. Judson whose memoirs are well known to the readers of missionary biography as those of an excellent and gifted woman—but the second Mrs. Judson, whose virtues are described by her successor Mrs. Judson the third. This is the commencement of the introductory notice informs us:—

"The authoress of this beautiful biographical

production is now labouring as a missionary in the Burman Empire. She has succeeded to the toils, as well as to the sacred relations, of the lady whose sufferings and labours she has so graphically depicted. Under the graceful pseudonym of Fanny Forester, Miss Emily C. Chubbuck has for some years held a high place amid the literary circles of America. She is a native of the state of New York. Highly educated and accomplished, her first productions were written while a teacher in a female seminary in Utica, and at once attracted attention and admiration. Early in 1844, while on a visit to the city of New York, she became a contributor to the pages of the *New York Mirror*. The sketches, essays, and poems which appeared in its pages, were, two years afterwards, when she was on the eve of sailing for Burmah, reprinted under the title of "Alderbrooke." On his return to America in 1846, after laying to rest his beloved partner and companion, the subject of this memoir, on the rocky isle of St. Helena, Dr. Judson sought out Miss Chubbuck, then at Philadelphia for her health, to request the employment of her pen on the narrative of the life's history of Mrs. Judson. His descriptions of the missionary field, his glowing ardour in his Master's cause, and his complete devotion to the religious welfare of the heathen, deeply affected the warm heart and vivid imagination of Miss Chubbuck, and laying aside the laurels she had won in her native land, the prospective wreaths which literature held out before her, and the still more endearing and absorbing ties of domestic happiness and affection, she consented to unite herself to the apostle of Burmah, and with him labour in the vineyard."

We cannot share Mr. Underhill's admiration for Miss Emily C. Chubbuck's style as an authoress.—The tomb of the second Mrs. Judson is by her hung with artificial flowers of the most tawdry and commonplace quality. Without simplicity there is neither charm nor profit in narratives of this kind: and "Fanny Forester" seems to have avoided simplicity with unusual fervour,—and entirely to have succeeded in her escape from it.

The University Atlas; or, Historical Maps of the Middle Ages. Part I. Containing the Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman periods.—We should like to approve of these good-looking maps,—or rather to examine them in the hope of finding them properly executed. But it has been done, it seems, to our hand. The title-page tells us that the work is "submitted to, and approved by, the principals of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and other high authorities." Do the principals mean the Heads of houses,—of whom there are upwards of forty? Have they all examined and approved of these maps? Or are the two Chancellors alluded to,—Prince Albert and the Duke of Wellington? Or, is the assertion one of those ambiguous ones which admit of a hundred evasions? We recommend the publisher to make a more definite statement in his second part,—and our readers to wait for it. The assertion is so unlikely, and has so much the appearance of puff, that he who makes it must prove it.

Chemical Manipulation and Analysis, Qualitative and Quantitative. By H. M. Noad.—This work forms a portion of the New Series of the "Library of Useful Knowledge":—and it is with reluctance that we pronounce an opinion on its merits. The author states, that being requested to revise the Treatise on Chemistry, "compiled" by the late Prof. Daniell, he could not "suit it in any way to his own views," and "was induced to suggest that a new work should be written." The work compiled by Mr. Noad is certainly not an improvement on the treatise written—and written too with the accurate knowledge necessary and the familiar style desirable—by Prof. Daniell. If Mr. Noad had not exhibited so large an amount of self-esteem,—if he had, as his publisher wished, taken the original Treatise, and made such additions to it as were necessary to complete the work up to the knowledge of the day,—he would have gained much greater credit than he is likely to acquire by the plan which he has adopted. Baron Liebig and Dr. Gregory felt it no dishonour to edit Professor Turner's "Elements of Chemistry." The stars are not jealous of each other's brightness:—they give and borrow radiations. The Treatise by Daniell was essentially popular, without being incomplete. It was intended for the "Diffusion of Useful Knowledge"

movement,—and was well adapted to its purpose. The present work is not at all fitted to fulfil the object of these serials. It is not *popular*;—it is, indeed, frequently unintelligible, and often incorrect. To the amateur chemist Mr. Noad's 'Manipulation' will not prove a satisfactory guide; and the practical chemist will certainly not leave his accurate "Rose," his careful "Fresenius," or his familiar "Parnell" for the teachings of one who has proved himself in this an immature chemist. Mr. Noad must remain a "member of the College of Chemistry," and stoop to copy the care and diligence of Dr. Hoffman, for a considerable period before he will be equal to such a task as he has here essayed.

The Colonization of British America, &c. By W. Bridges.—This is an account of a proposal to colonize Canada in connexion with railways. When the scheme was first broached we expressed an opinion upon its demerits;—and now we need only add that in this *brochure* the case is put in favour of the scheme with such show of arguments as an advocate can always command.

Steam to Australia, its general Advantages considered; the different proposed Routes for connecting London and Sydney compared; and the Expediency of forming a Settlement at Cape York, in Jones Strait, pointed out in a Letter to the Right Hon. Earl Grey. By Adam Bogue.—This is another issue from the press of Sydney. The title sufficiently explains the object of the writer; and we have only to notice in addition that his argument is illustrated by maps of the countries through and by which he proposes to establish steam communication with England.

The Youth of India speaking for themselves. Being the substance of the Examination Papers of the Students of the London Missionary Society's Christian Institution or College in Calcutta. With a few Introductory Remarks. By the Rev. T. Boaz.—It has now become a guiding principle with the friends of the Christianization of the world that the religion of Europe—in this respect unlike its art, science, or civilization—can be propagated in strange lands only by native instruments; and it is therefore a strong point with nearly all denominations to procure young converts in the sphere of their operations with the view of rearing them as apostles. The College at Calcutta adopts this as one of its prime functions, —and, as these Papers prove, not without a prospect of success. We have looked them over with some interest; and must say that they exhibit such an amount of English reading and good sense as would not disgrace the *élèves* of many an English College.

A Letter to the Chairman of the East India Company, on the Position of the East India Railway Company, with Extracts from the public Papers, and Remarks. By W. P. Andrew.—It is enough for us to give the title of this pamphlet.

Lectures on Logic. By C. E. Moberly, M.A.—A concise treatise, written by an author who is somewhat prone to metaphysics, from whom we should sometimes differ, and whose book we could not recommend as a first book to any one,—excepting as a syllabus of a course of lectures. But a teacher, or a student who is advanced enough to range, might turn the thoughts it would suggest to advantage.

Bulletin de l'Académie Royale de Belgique. Tome XIV. 2nde Partie; Tome XV. 1ère Partie.—These volumes come upon us like an encyclopædia, and one full of new researches. We cannot analyze them: mathematics, physics, geology, statistics, music, history, &c., all find place. But our readers are hereby warned that the Belgian Academy is in full activity; and those to whom it is of importance to be made aware of the results of current researches should bear the existence of this valuable record in mind.

Comptes Rendus, &c. Vol. XXVI. Nos. 1—28.—These numbers take in the first twenty-eight weeks of the current year; and the dimensions of the several numbers, their falling off in March and April, and their subsequent increase towards June, tell a story of the Revolution. Still, there is not one week of absolute vacuity.

Continental Travel. By E. Lee, Esq.—This publication aims at giving condensed information concerning parts the most frequently visited abroad. It is, in fact, an enlarged and improved edition of 'Memoranda on France, Italy and Germany,' published some years ago. Unlike most books

of travels, therefore, it is the product of repeated experiences, not of a single visit. Such experiences, nevertheless, have failed to correct certain political prejudices of the author, to which we should not have alluded had not Mr. Lee himself drawn special attention to the fact. His opinions in this respect provoke a smile that any man in these times of change should place so much importance on his political vaticinations as to invite specific attention to them in a separate preface.

Crosby Hall Lectures on Education.—Printed in connexion with the Congregational Board of Education, and expressing the sentiments of the section of Dissenters in England which that body represents. We have already entered so frequently and fully into this question, that we need only add at present the titles of two other *brochures* on the same subject.—*An Address to the Nation on the Education of the Children of the Poor, as illustrative of the System of Instruction pursued in the Christian Union School, Lower Ingshton, Lincolnshire.* By the Vicar of Harwell, Berks.—*The Church and the Education Question; a Letter to the Lord Bishop of Ripon.* By the Rev. Henry Parr Hamilton, F.R.S.

Delmar's Complete Theoretical and Practical Grammar of the Spanish Language.—There now appears a fifth edition of this work; with some additions that give an enhanced value to a grammar which, for the purposes of the English student, we think the most complete, precise, and satisfactory that has appeared in this country. The manner in which the idioms and the use of the particles and tenses are explained by equivalents in our language is apt and judicious; bespeaking in the author an accurate knowledge of the points most likely to embarrass a learner and great dexterity in making them clear, as well as a critical acquaintance with our tongue. He has availed himself of the standard authority of the grammar of the Spanish Academy; but uses it with such illustrations as are necessary to the student in a foreign language: and the progressive exercises which he has added throughout the work are so well chosen that the assistance of a teacher will be hardly needed by any intelligent learner who will properly study this volume. Among the useful practical aids inserted by Señor Delmar may be mentioned a series of good and clear rules for pronunciation, and explanations of the social forms of address in speaking and writing:—both extremely valuable to those who may be studying Spanish for other than merely literary purposes.

The Latin Church during Anglo-Saxon Times. By the Rev. W. Soames, &c.—The controversy between Mr. Soames and Dr. Wiseman respecting the Anglo-Saxon Church can have interest only for the most polemic of theologians. It is agreed on all hands that catholicity originally consisted in a federative union of national churches, each of which had its own peculiar usages, generally a peculiar ritual, and if not peculiar doctrines at least doctrines in different stages of development. To what extent the *Primacy of Rome* was recognized by the early Western churches is a question of different solution; some facts may be found which would seem to indicate an acknowledgment of Rome's supremacy,—others seem to point out absolute independence. Hence it would be reasonable to conclude that supremacy and independence were unsettled questions; and the same remark would apply to many doctrines which Mr. Soames says that the Anglo-Saxons rejected,—while Dr. Wiseman asserts that they received and maintained them. The probability is that the Anglo-Saxons had no very fixed opinions about such matters. There may have been many firm believers in transubstantiation long before the doctrine was formally broached; and the invoking saints and martyrs assuredly prevailed among the vulgar long before the practice of intercession was recognized by the Latin church. Under these circumstances, we think it a mere waste of time to investigate what were the precise articles of Christian belief in a barbarous age: for creeds, like everything else, must necessarily share in the barbarism of the age to which they belong.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS
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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY REFORM.

THE success of the five graces seems to have been unexpected. We presumed last week, in what we wrote before the result, that neither Dr. Whewell nor the Vice-Chancellor felt much confidence:—and from all we can now learn, nothing so good seems to have been hoped for as a general total of more than two to one for the improvements. It remains to proceed wisely and warily with the conduct of them. If the changes should be permitted to reinforce what is already in excess—the cramming system—they will ultimately do nothing but harm. The best friends of their old *alma mater*, who have been trying the results of her education in the wide world, look upon this question as the pivot of the whole. They consider that the intellectual hope of the University lies in her being able to check that substitution of the getting up of subjects for the getting hold of sound knowledge which has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished. At the risk of being set down by Dr. Philpot in the list of unfriendly commentators, we declare, in our own names and in those of many others, that the machinery by which the student's attention is turned more to the importance of the examination than to that of the matter in which he is to be examined will be the ruin of an otherwise admirable system, if a timely remedy be not applied.

In the first of the graces, that which compels the attendance of the undergraduate upon one or more of the *University professors*, its construction has an element of prosperity for the University which we are sure is not the result of accident. It has at the same time a loophole for the entrance of evil, which the circumstances of the time and the state of opinion have compelled its framers to leave. Our readers will all remember that much censure has been cast on the obsolete state of the *University professorships*,—that is, on the modern plan of supplying all the teaching by college tutors and private tutors. It would not, in itself, matter one pin whether the teachers were professors to all colleges or tutors each in his own, provided the education in either case were the best possible. Such being the case, let the teaching be called college work, and let the small endowments called professorships be rewards of merit. But the pinch of the question lies in this,—that for certain subjects no provision is made in the colleges; so that all the organization that exists is in the University professorships.

Our educational tripos, as our readers know, stands (as a tripos ought to do) on three legs—ancient literature, exact science, and observation of nature.

These and the before system of ours. It is in some which been the desire under "Give Univer history student left to the eyes in of man, is on both necessary which, skillful system examining which want of education &c. &c. V is, the examining which eligible pene teaching the boy this, the—its situation in the eleventh himself lie with recent saw the eyes other people. The Should session to all the cheap. The salar which residen every or ortho second termed be ashamed to be a scie

"The sis, and emblematic was the Mysteri Upon I sit, For to Are no

These we believe to contain all the great disciplines, and therefore to be sufficient for education—these we believe to lie at the commencement of all systematic study of human knowledge, and therefore to be the proper field of exertion for beginners. Superadded to these as much other knowledge as you can; but remember that the time is limited, and that digestion is essential—*cram* is sure to hinder the growth of all but the strongest stomachs. Now, it so happens that all the sciences of observation are taught by University professors—none by College tutors. If nothing but observation of nature were taught by the public professors, then the first of the graces would compel a student to pay some attention to it. But herein lies the loophole of which we spoke,—namely, that the reformers have been obliged to shape their course so as to meet, not the demand of those who think about education, but the cry of those who examine institutions and band under party watchwords. Therefore, it has not been “Give us the natural sciences”; but “Give us the University professors.” Moral philosophy, modern history, and political economy—in all of which a student may be a mere reader for examination—are left to his choice, in evasion of natural history, geology, &c. So that he need not necessarily use his eyes in conjunction with his reason in observation of material objects:—an exercise the want of which is, in our view, the great defect of all our learned systems.

But, it will be said, may not the student be a reader on botany or geology, preparing himself for printed question and pen-and-ink answer? We reply, not necessarily:—and now we come to the point in which, as we have said, we believe the grace to be skilfully framed to meet the wants of the existing system. The professors themselves are to be the examiners. No men can be so much alive to the want of observation of nature in the prevailing education as the professors of geology, botany, chemistry, &c. Were it not for the loophole we have just mentioned, the game would be all in their hands:—as it is, they have much power. We look to them to examine in such a manner that the competency of which they are to certify before their students are eligible to degrees shall be nothing but that competency which is gained from the *objects* of their teaching,—requiring more than the mere study of the books which are written about them. If they do this, they will be the real champions of the University—its saviours from the increasing abuses of *examination* in literature and science. They will introduce the element which will in time make the student himself the reformer—and that before very long. It lies with them to avoid the mistake made by the recently established University of London; which saw the defect—felt that students did not use their eyes—and set them *reading* about the way in which other people had used theirs.

There is one obvious possible source of mischief. Should it ever happen that a sordid man gets possession of one of the public professorships, he might, to allure crowds of students to his courses, let them off cheaper than the others. There is a possibility of this. These safeguards are threefold:—first, the public opinion, which is everything to the comfort of a University resident, is closely packed, quickly informed, and, in everything but matter between college and college or orthodoxy and heterodoxy, quite impartial;—secondly, the undergraduates themselves would soon be ashamed of the *non-reading class*, as it would be termed;—thirdly, a grace of the Senate might exclude that class from its privilege for any time.

On the whole, we see much reason to look for good from this grace:—but, again we repeat, the main point of it lie in the working of it by the professors of the sciences of observation.

PROTEUS.

“The poets say that Proteus was Neptune’s herdsman: a grave sire, and exceedingly a prophet that he might well be termed *thrice excellent*; for he knew many things to come, but even things past as well as present; so that he had but small skill in divination, he was the messenger and interpreter of all Antiquities and hidden Mysteries.”—BACON: *Windom of the Ancients*.

UPON the yellow margin of the Sea
I sit,—and meditate of times unborn:
For to mine ears the murmurs of the deep
Are no unmeaning sounds,—but come full-fraught
With secrets of the ever-working Fates.

O, many-visaged, many-voiced Sea!
‘Tis well that unto creatures made for Death—
Blind spirits flickering in a clod of dust—
Thou shouldst suggest vague meanings, which still fade
Before the slow conception of the brain,
Baffling the grasp,—and yet are ever there.
But I, who drew from thee my life,—who know
All things that in thy vast domain abide,
From farthest North unto extremest South,
With all the depths that lie ‘twixt East and West
Unvisited of Dian,—I, who am,
By right, the hoary shepherd of thy flocks,
And lord of all thy monsters,—find in thee,
O, thou Eternal! wisdom vast and high,
And echoes from the gulf of antique years.

Yet not alone have I the Past in view.
The phantoms of the Future—antetypes
Of countless thoughts and actions crowding on
Like shadows through the gusty plains of space—
To me are gross and palpable, and bound
To answer when I question. For my sire,
Earth-clasping Neptune, gave me power to look
Into the mystic palace of the stars
Where Fate sits circled with the wrecks of Time;
And to my musing spirit whispers come
Of planetary secrets—mysteries
Whereof man dreams not—unembodied thoughts
Yet forming in Jove’s brain, which, if proclaimed,
Would shake the heavens with vast imaginings.

Therefore I search out solitary shores
Beside lone oceans,—where no sound can come
But harmonies of winds and swooning waves,
Or clamour of imprisoned waters down
In rocky chasms. And when Night steals up,
I sit upon some stony mass, apart,
(Myself as still and pulseless as a stone),
And hearken to the voices, grave and deep,
Of the far-lying Future, as they come
Muttering like thunder when its sleep is dashed
With clang of loud Aeolian trumpets blown
Beneath the vault of the up-piled clouds.
Then do I muse on Time and Destiny,
And on the riddle of this tangled world,
And all the hidden motives of the Gods
Close kept by jealous Nature; and so grasp
At once, with bidding of my potent will,
The end for which the patient ages work.
Knowledge of mightiest compass I have wood
From heaven to dwell in me as in its sphere.
And I am grey with living in all times:—
For unto me a minute of man’s life
Holds in its circle all that Fate can will
Or Jove himself can dream of; and my sight
Discerns, through the unsteady drift of Time,
And through the ebb and flow of myriad years,
One strong, clear purpose running,—like a stream
That, with deep pulses of its mountain heart,
Traverses deserts and long sandy wilds
Until it meets the everlasting Sea.

Bear up, then, with high heart, against all storms
Adverse and thwarting, ye who toil for Earth,
With philosophic souls thronged far above
Fate and her bondslave, Death. Blear Time goes on
Like some pale wanderer in a desert land
Uncertain of the end he travels to;
But ye can ante-date his farthest step,
And touch his utmost bourn. Despair lives not
For such as ye, O, utterers of the Unknown!
Who see the perfect end of all things wrapped
In leaf-like foldings of the centuries,—
As some sweet bud of summer lies and dreams
In its green cloister, till the lips of June
Awake it into life. Go boldly forth!
Sing loud your spherical music, ye who are
Earth’s truest giants; warring not with Jove,
But aiding his high work, which ripens still
Even when fierce winds shake it to the core!
Live for the End,—the End aye lives for you!
And when the magic sleep is on your eyes,
I’ll bring ye visions of the mighty deep
Beyond Olympus, where the Gods reside.—
The eternal deep, (fit home of glorious shapes),
Sapphirian, radiant, zoned with happy stars,
And loud with songs of endless melody,
(Though not a tenth part of the loveliness
Dare I reveal to mortal senses frail);
And so enclose a thousand years of bliss
In few short hours, until the Morning flings
Its golden bridge across the eastern waves.

EDMUND OLLIER.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE EXODUS.

A correspondent, who signs himself J. L. B., has called attention to the observations of Miss Corbax [see *ante*, 1053] in reply to a remark contained in

our review of her paper on the Geography of the Exodus [*ante*, p. 1053]. He objects that her solution of the difficulty involves several questionable assumptions. She places Marah by the sea at Ayin Mousa—though it is apparently described in the Pentateuch as in the Wilderness.—2. She shortens the three days stated by Moses to have been occupied by the Israelites, after leaving the sea, in “going out into the Wilderness” into “not more than one day and part of the next”—and the route into the Wilderness she changes for the route down the coast to Ayin Mousa. J. L. B. adds that Miss Corbax’s hypothesis is at least 300 years old; Tischendorff in his ‘Travels in the East’ (Leipzig, 1846) having quoted a similar opinion—rejecting it, however, as untenable. One or two other difficulties are stated by our correspondent; but as the insertion of these would only lead to further controversy, we prefer leaving the case as it stands to the judgment of the reader.

Burckhardt first indicated the precise situation of Marah. He places it in the Wadi Amarah, at Howara:—and this locality meets all the requirements of the sacred text. The most eminent modern travellers, Niebuhr, Robinson, and Wilson, concur, on a personal examination of the whole of that region, in this view:—and we confess that Miss Corbax’s substitution of Ayin Mousa for Howara is not satisfactory. In addition to the objections of our correspondent, it may be noticed that the waters of that place are *not bitter*,—as both Burckhardt and Wilson testify; though, like all springs in the neighbourhood, they are brackish. The wilderness in which the Children of Israel wandered for three days is placed traditionally *south* of Ayin Mousa,—not to the north, as it must have been if that place had been the end of their journey. The objection of Miss Corbax, that the Howara of Burckhardt is too near to Elim (Wady Gharandel) to justify the supposition that Moses would have stayed at the former place for even one night, is met by the fact that Dr. Wilson has, with great probability, placed Elim in the Wadi Waseit, midway between Howara and the Red Sea,—the place of next encampment after the Israelites left Elim.

If we may give what seems to us the most probable solution of the difficulty, we should say that there is no sufficient reason for supposing that Marah was reached in three days after the Israelites left the Red Sea. They came from Rameses on the 15th of one month; and after seven specified encampments, reached the Wilderness of Sin—not the next station after Elim as Miss Corbax supposes—on the 15th of the following month. During this interval they went three days’ journey into the Wilderness without finding water. Later still they came to Marah,—where they found bitter springs. But that the one occurrence terminated the other is not said. The idea that they reached Marah in a week and spent three weeks between Marah and Sin is not probable,—nor is it suggested by the language of Scripture. An attentive perusal of the whole narrative will be found, we think, to sustain this theory:—and if it prove true, it leaves Miss Corbax free to meet other difficulties and to reconcile her conclusions with the general facts of the case.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We are to have a Shakespeare Exhibition in London in aid of the funds for the purchase and preservation of the Poet’s House. The Earl of Ellesmere will contribute the celebrated Chandos Portrait; and the Duke of Devonshire, it is said, the several editions of the quarto plays published in the Poet’s lifetime—so curious from their rarity and for their quaint and picturesque title-pages. Mr. Troward will send the only known autograph of Shakespeare in private hands—and Mr. Wheler of Stratford his valuable collection of Shakespeare documents and curiosities. We are to have mulberry cups, and portraits, and engravings:—a medley museum, in short, not unlike the attractive exhibitions which the Archaeological Institute brought together at Winchester, York, Norwich, and Lincoln. A sub-committee has been appointed to conduct the Exhibition, consisting of Mr. J. Payne Collier, Mr. Charles Knight, and Mr. Peter Cunningham. An advertisement of the wants and intentions of the Committee will be issued very shortly.—The Chandos Portrait is but partially known. When

exhibited at Stowe it was so badly hung that it was scarcely seen.

The weeks continue to yield up, amongst ourselves, their quiet evidences of Progress; and "the whirling of Time" employed to bring about our moral revolutions, though somewhat slow in its action, is better than the violently accelerated movement that breaks the circles, ere they can be completed, and leaves them to be begun over again.—The Peace Apostles are going their round; sowing broadcast the seed which they hope will some day—even if it be long first—yield the true Tree of Liberty. At a conference held at the Hall of Commerce, Paris has been fixed on as the scene of another congress—to be held in August next year. Lord John Russell has given a respectful ear to the objects of the association as submitted to him by a deputation:—and at the meeting above mentioned, it was determined to endeavour to secure the services in the House of Commons of some influential members,—and to act on the members of that house generally by means of the constituencies. To meet the expenses of a missionary system for indoctrinating the constituencies, a special fund of not less than 5,000*l.* is to be raised. The delegates have already preached their doctrine at Manchester and at Liverpool.—Meantime, until "Othello's occupation" shall be "gone," it has been considered that the Education questions may as well embrace the soldier in their course:—by which means he will be the better enabled to turn his sword into a ploughshare when time shall be ripe for the substitution. Communications have taken place between the authorities at the Horse Guards and King's College, London, on the subject of supplying at that institution a department for military education: and there are symptoms of movement in the same direction elsewhere, and an expectation that it may be imitated in all the great academies.—The "Baths and Washhouses" cause; and the Early Closing Association have both had meetings this week—and reported "progress."—All these are so many points in the people's true Charter; and we shall rejoice to see them carried.

At a General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Printers' Pension Society, a favourable report was rendered. The subscriptions for the past year have been more than sufficient to meet an increased expenditure:—and a further addition of 430*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* has, in the last year, been made to the funded property of the society,—making a total amount of 5,014*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* The number of pensioners, including the Whittingham pensioner, is 52:—and since the formation of the society upwards of 150 aged and infirm members of the trade have been relieved. The total amount of the receipts for the last year, from all sources, was 1,378*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*:—leaving 117*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* balance in hand.

The immediate fashion of the day is monsters. The Sea-serpent is hardly well established as an actual swimming Saurian, or Fish, or Ophis,—and neither myth nor mistake—when a French ship's captain arrives at Havre with his tale of a terrible tortoise, huge as man-of-war floating hull uppermost, having a shell garnished with spikes as sharp as Cleopatra's needle and the most hideous head ever seen. Now is the time to put forward the prize Sea-Cow,—to produce the mermaid vouched for by Jack Harris,—to bring to the light "of common day" the Kraken whose birth, parentage, and education were all registered in the uncommonplace book of Pontoppidan, the venerable Norwegian bishop.—Meanwhile, Piccadilly has got a pretty little wonder of its own. This time it is no Tom—nor Tabitha—Thumb,—no mysterious gentlewoman who divines what fish A, B, and C have ordered for dinner, and solves the conundrums of quaint device which exist in D, E, and F's pockets,—no whooping Indians to strike terror into the peaceful perfumers of the Arcade,—no block of a lady, red and white as life, in wax or in composition,—but a lady in a block of marble! She was found, we are told by Mr. Eades, when he was preparing the material for an obelisk; and the following is his description of his treasure.—

Three inches in height, in the costume of the Aristocracy of the present time; possessing the most accurate and pleasing Features—graceful Figure—beautiful ringlets—upon the head an elegant cottage bonnet, to which is attached a superb veil—upon her arm she carries a fashionable muff, which has the appearance of one of the most recherché of the Hudson Bay Company. This incomparable Miniature has been examined by several eminent Antiqua-

rians, Scientific Gentlemen, first-rate Artists, and numerous distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, who have unanimously pronounced it to be the finest Specimen beheld, and may be challenged against any other in the World!—so perfectly uniform in every particular—combining grace and elegance—that it appears a production of Mr. MARTIN'S, or some other celebrated Artist. The Miniature is a perfect representation of a LADY, 5-feet 5-inches high—clad in the height of Fashion, and has the Appearance of a Lady of Rank. Also her Companion, the BUST of a GENTLEMAN, (of similar dimensions,) who faces the Lady, was discovered, in the same block of marble! has created the utmost astonishment in every beholder—who have declared that this mysterious representation of a LADY AND GENTLEMAN is the inimitable production of nature—and an impossibility to have been the production of Art.

Now, without desiring to damage an "exposition" so charmingly announced, we must say that many years ago we sat by a hearth above which was a chimney-piece containing a Shakespeare gallery of scenes and groups twenty times as graphically correct as this marble aristocrat. An exhibition might as well be made of cut fern-roots, in which, as all the wise world knows, awful pictures are shut up,—or of the glowing accidents of a good fire, from the blazing caverns of which an artist handling a cunning poker might, with dexterous management, dig out Louis Blancs, or Louis Napoleons, or Louis of Bavaria, or any other given Louis or Lola wanted, by the score. In short, the programme above transcribed is the show:—the substance exhibited being open to many guesses and glosses.

Mr. Murray announces 'A History of the Sikhs,' from the pen of Capt. Joseph Cunningham of the Bengal Engineers. Capt. Cunningham is the eldest son of Allan Cunningham the poet; and his book will contain the results at once of his own observation and research and of his eight years' official experience as assistant political agent on the north-west frontier,—first to Sir Claude Wade and afterwards to Col. Richmond, Mr. Clerk, the Governor of Bombay, and to the late Major Broadfoot. Capt. Cunningham was long a resident in the present seat of war in Mooltan; and was honourably mentioned in Sir Harry Smith's Aliwal despatch, and in the Sutlej despatches of Lord Hardinge and Lord Gough.

We have spoken more than once of the difficulty which archaeologists and others interested in ancient lore find in obtaining access to the literary and historical treasures concealed in the Prerogative Office, Doctors' Commons. On this subject a correspondent now writes:—"I wish to put you in possession of a quotation from a note received from a gentleman whom I had requested to call at the Prerogative Office, to inspect some old wills. 'If,' he says, 'the rudeness of the clerks had not prevented me I would have found more than these; but in this Office they get worse and worse.'"¹—The writer of the foregoing and all parties interested in the promotion of historical knowledge will look with interest for the return ordered by the House of Commons at the close of the last session of "Copies of the rules and regulations of the officers of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, for enabling searches to be made and inspection to be had of wills, or of the registered copies of wills, proved in the said court prior to the year 1650:—of the rules and regulations under which copies or extracts of such wills can be made by or furnished to parties making searches, or under which copies or extracts (not being certified copies) may be collated, examined or compared with the originals or with the registered copies:—returns of the number of searches made between the 24th day of June 1847 and the 24th day of June 1848, for wills proved in the said court prior to the year 1650; together with the number of copies of or extracts from such wills taken or made between the same dates:—and of the amount of all fees received for the searches, copies or extracts last mentioned, or any of them."² We hope when these Returns shall be furnished, that the honourable Baronet who moved for them,—Sir Harry Verney, who has already shown his anxiety to promote the cause of historical inquiry by placing his valuable collection of family papers at the disposal of the Camden Society,—will avail himself of the information he may obtain from them, and propose some substantive and decided measure to the House for the remedy of this long-complained of literary grievance.

Mr. A. J. Scott is elected Professor of English Language and Literature in University College. We have received from Mr. Lassell the following qualification of the honours assigned to him by Mr.

Nasmyth when speaking of his "home-made telescope" in our paper of last week [p. 1108]. "I have nowhere asserted that I have discovered a ring of Neptune. I have indeed stated my belief in its existence, because I could not account for all I have seen about the planet on any other hypothesis; but to verify it absolutely as a discovery has hitherto been beyond my powers.—I doubt, moreover, whether I have had so many as eleven undoubted observations of the closest satellite of Saturn; though I have had a sufficient number to corroborate the period of revolution given by Sir W. Herschel."

One hundred and forty unpublished letters addressed by King William III. to Henry de Lorraine, Prince of Vaudemont, were recently sold by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, for something like 6*s.* 6*d.* piece! It was the wish of the owner that the collection should be sold entire; but no offer of any consequence appears to have been made, and the letters are now irrecoverably dispersed. This says very little for the authorities at the British Museum. Surely a collection of letters of historical importance, written by one of the wisest of our English kings, would have formed an important addition to the MS. treasures in the British Museum! Forty-six pounds one shilling (all that the letters realized) was surely a very insignificant sum for such a collection,—at least so the two Lords Oxford would have thought. Illustrations of British history are, it appears to us, matters of paramount importance for the Trustees of the British Museum to collect. Future historians (and Mr. Macaulay is busy with a history of the reign of William III.) would surely have derived much that is new and of moment from a careful examination of the letters now unhappily dispersed. The king's affection for his wife appears to have been a great deal more sincere than has hitherto been supposed. In one of the letters containing an account of the queen's last illness, he concludes by observing:—

Vous savez ce que c'est d'avoir une bonne femme, si l'estoie assez malheureux de perdre la mienne, il faudroit se retirer du monde, et quoy que nous n'avons pas de Couvents en notre religion, l'on trouve toujours des endroits pour se retirer et prier le bon Dieu pour le reste de ses jours.

In another letter dated from Kensington, the 6th of Nov. 1696, William observes:—"We received yesterday letters up to the 17th of October, from Madrid, which bring us the unfortunate intelligence that the King of Spain was suffering from a return of sickness, and that the fever continued on him. With so feeble a constitution as his, the worst is to be feared. May the good God preserve us from a death which would embroil the affairs of Europe so much, that we can foresee nothing but the most unfortunate consequences from it. The Jacobites (as they call them here) flatter themselves greatly about some design for a descent upon this kingdom, and speak about it quite freely. I beg of you to use all possible diligence in order that you may receive regular information of the preparations which the enemy may be making on their frontier and sea-coast, so that we may not be taken by surprise, as we were this spring." In another dated from Kensington, in 1696, he writes:—"I see that you have the same intelligence that we have here from France, that they have formed a great design for a descent on this kingdom, and the Jacobites (as they call them here) speak quite publicly of it, and although the thing is not too easy, it is only prudent to take every possible precaution. This will prevent me from sending to the Low Countries so many troops as I had thought of doing at the beginning of the campaign, which is a sufficiently provoking *contre-tempo*."³ The letters are entirely in the king's own handwriting: a characteristic hand—not unlike the Duke of Wellington's, but finer.

We have received a letter from a member of the Committee of the "City of London Literary and Scientific Institution"—purporting to be an answer to the remarks which we made last week on the subject of the literary prizes offered by that institution. There is nothing in the letter which requires that we should qualify those remarks. The writer confirms our view, that the matter is a private, not a public, one—such, we repeat, as we should not have thought of introducing to the notice of our readers if the advertisement had disclosed all that appears in the prospectus. We will give him the benefit of the single statement in his letter which is of consequence

to the society itself—though it makes no difference in the nature of its claims upon our notice. The amount of the prizes, he says, "has been raised by private subscription in the institution, and was never intended to be supplied out of the general fund."

The *Gazette* of last week contains an order in council extending the provisions of the law of copyright to Prince Edward's Island.

At a meeting of the Council of Queen's College, Birmingham, held in the library of the institution on the 7th inst., Lord Lyttelton in the chair, Prof. Knowles reported that he had attended the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Swansea, and had presented the invitation of the college to that society to hold their next anniversary in Birmingham,—which had been accepted. The Rev. Chancellor Law, Prof. Dr. Birt Davies, Prof. Sands Cox and Prof. Knowles were appointed a sub-committee to consider what steps should be taken by the college on the occasion.

The Paris papers announce the death in England of M. Vatout, a member of the French Academy—a writer of considerable talent—at one time President of the Council for the Conservation of Civil Buildings in France—and recently Chief Librarian to the (now broken) Crown.

A correspondent sends us the following—"It is a question much discussed whether we are wiser than our ancestors,—but beyond a doubt we are more funny. The fact is, that those who have no turn for humour never attempt anything of the kind now-a-days without getting laughed at; while those who have a little of it have a hundred models before them:—for humour is as much the name of a well studied branch of human faculties as art,—and the laws of producing effect have been ascertained and followed. How else is legitimate humour a naturalized phrase? It was not so in the seventeenth century. There was little to imitate—as to taste. Humour was for the most part coupled with indecency, to use a mild word—and in the matter of a joke, every man said what seemed good in his own ears. Witness the bathos on stilts into which Shakespeare contrives to get, both in tragedy and in comedy:—nor is the metaphor incorrect, for *bathos* means height as well as depth, but ordinary notion of altitude fails to express enough. It is not, however, Shakespeare who has suggested the above remarks, but a man of less note, Pits,—whose name indicates that his bathos should lie downwards. He is the opponent of Bale as the annalist of ancient English writers. The latter was scurrilous towards the Catholics; it was right, therefore, that the former should abuse the Protestants. He begins by rendering the Latin *Baleus* not *Bale* but *Bal*,—a Latin form of writing *Baal*: a process which may be called joking by machinery, since the ordinary working of the sentence brings out a pun. Every Protestant whom Bale mentions is "prophet" *Bal*,—a prophet of *Baal*. Above all, Wickliffe,—whom he says some call "Vreakbelief" others "Vickedbeef." Here are three touches of the sixteenth century in one: the ponderosity of the joke—the makeshifts of the type (the work was printed at Paris in Latin, and W and k were foreign luxuries)—and the Englishman spelling a word of his own language in two different ways in one sentence. But there is one great omission. Bale's work was printed at *Basle*. If Pits had only remembered this, he might have hit the Protestant town a heavy blow. 'Bale the Baal of Basle' would have been a witticism at which the doctors of the sixteenth century would have split their sides. Pits had a reason for trying to drive his readers away from Bale, over and above difference of opinion:—the former was the plagiarist of the latter. This has been often stated,—and is not doubted: but whether a perfectly crucial proof has ever been given, we do not know. Here is one, however. Speaking of John de Muris, Bale remarks that he had obtained his information at Dr. Recorde's, in London—*apud Doctorem Recordum, Londini*: and Recorde was Bale's personal friend,—as elsewhere appears. Pits, after giving the same information, says that John de Muris collected his information from R. Recorde (meaning from his writings)—*ex Roberto Recordo collegi*.—There is nothing new under the sun. This is exactly what is done now-a-days. The plagiarist's syllogism is:—If B take it from A, and C take it from B,—C takes it from A. This is true only when the following words are added

"with B's mistakes, if any, in the matter, and a fraud in the manner."

DIORAMA, REGENTS PARK.—NOTICE.—The Picture of ST. MARK'S, VENICE, will be closed on SATURDAY NEXT, the 19th instant. Also, now exhibiting, MOUNT ETNA, in SICILY, during an Eruption. Both Pictures are seen under various effects of light and shade. Open from Ten till Four.—Admittance, 2s.; Children under Twelve Years, Half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A LECTURE on SANITARY MEASURES connected with the Progress of CHOLERA and other EPIDEMICS, by Dr. Ryan, daily at Half-past Three, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings, at Nine o'clock. Also on the MANUFACTURE of GLASS PERCHA, by Mr. D. H. Fox, daily at Half-past Three, and on Saturday Evening, New PHANTASMAGORIA by CHILDE, every Evening at Eight o'clock, with APPROPRIATE MUSIC. The DISSOLVING VIEWS, with historical descriptions. The CHROMATROPE with New Effects. The MICROSCOPE, at Six o'clock daily. DIVER AND DIVING-BELL. WORKING MODELS explained.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price. The New Catalogue, 1s.

SOCIETIES

ASTRONOMICAL.—The Supplementary Notice for the summer months contains the account of Mr. Lassell's new satellite of Saturn; and a letter from Mr. Lassell,—in which, speaking of his apparatus for polishing mirrors, he says, "I have at length brought my polishing machine to do all that I ever hoped or purposed it should do." * * I wished to be able to re-polish a known good surface without hurting it, as well as to turn a bad one into a good one with certainty and expedition. This, I am happy to say, I can now do." There is a large mass of observations of Flora, Neptune, Hebe, Astraea, Metis, Petersen's comet (with elements), and Encke's comet. Then follows an account of Mr. Challis's method for applying refraction to equatorial observations; and a letter from Mr. Weld, of Stonyhurst, on a solar spot. The notice terminates with a short account of the present state of the Observatories of Greenwich, Edinburgh, Oxford, Cambridge, and Liverpool. The account of Cambridge Observatory, which is a splendid instance of heavy work done under great difficulties, is short enough to extract.—

The Syndicate appointed to visit the Cambridge Observatory made a Report to the Senate, of which the following is the substance:—

The total number of observations in 1847 were,—	
With the Transit	2540
Circle	2235
Northumberland Equatorial	1400

The observations with the Meridional Instruments are chiefly of the Sun (of which there is a very extensive series), Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, with a good series of Aster, Flora, and Iris. About 300 stars have been also observed.

The Equatorial observations are for the most part of the minor planets and comets, which could not be seen on the meridian. These are, Neptune, Astraea, Hebe, Iris, Flora, and the following comets:—Hind's, Feb. 6; Mauvais' 3rd; Miss Mitchell's; Colla's.

Prof. Challis finds himself so much oppressed with unreduced and unpublished observations, that he has discontinued observations of the sun, moon, and the older planets, since the beginning of this year.* The recently-discovered planets are observed on the meridian and with the Northumberland Equatorial, and the results communicated to the Royal Astronomical Society and to foreign astronomers.

The Meridional Observations of 1847 are completely reduced. The Equatorial Observations are less forward.

The volume for 1843 is nearly ready for publication.

It does not contain the Equatorial Observations, which are reserved for separate publication. Two Appendices are added: one containing so many of the observations made in search of the planet Neptune as are required to substantiate the statements given in the Special Report of Dec. 12, 1846,—and the other a description of the Northumberland Telescope and Dome, drawn up by the Astronomer-Royal.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—November 3.—The monthly meetings recommended at Great George Street; the Marquis of Northampton, V.P., in the chair.—Fifty-two new subscribing members were announced as having joined since the close of last session: including Viscount Massareene, Lord Monson, the Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Hon. C. Tennyson D'Eyncourt, Sir J. Trollope, J. Need, Esq., and a large accession at the Lincoln meeting. Five new life members were added to the lists.—Lord Northampton addressed the members

* It is perhaps proper to inform those who are not acquainted with the University of Cambridge, that Prof. Challis gives lectures during one term on physics, and that he is largely engaged in the University examinations. His duties as lecturer and examiner must be attended to in the first place, whatever the Observatory business may be. The University cannot afford to give such a salary as will secure persons competent to carry on the computations without constant superintendence; and when an assistant has obtained the necessary acquirements, he is naturally and properly on the look out for a better place. It is not generally known how much mere heavy labour has been actually performed by the late and present Professors.

at the opening of another session; advertising to the increase of archeological investigation, the cordial welcome with which the Institute had been received at Lincoln, and the encouraging prospects before them at Salisbury. The library and collection of the Society had been augmented by numerous donors; and some antiquities of considerable interest had been added to the Museum,—especially an assemblage of casts from Runic inscriptions, given by Mr. Dawes, the importance of which in connexion with Anglo-Saxon times had been illustrated by Mr. Kemble.—A variety of antiquities were laid before the meeting.—Mr. R. Fox produced a remarkable torc-bracelet of gold, recently found in ploughing on his estates near Wendorpe, Bucks. The intrinsic value of this unique ornament is nearly twenty pounds. No tumulus or site of ancient occupation exists near the place of discovery, which had been woodland, recently broken up. It had been conjectured that this relic might have been deposited at the time of the conflict between the Romans and the sons of the British king, Cunobelin,—which occurred not far from the spot. Mr. Fox announced his intention of presenting this valuable object to the collection of British antiquities in the British Museum. This liberal example would doubtless be followed by many important donations if the long-desired object of an assemblage of national antiquities scientifically arranged were carried into effect.—Several other gold ornaments were submitted, by Dr. Mantell and Mr. Farrer.—A collection of Early British and Roman remains was sent by Mr. Whincop; and several notices of interest relating to those periods were received from the Rev. T. Rankin, Rev. W. Coppard, Mr. Hodges, of Torquay, Mr. Kirtland, and other correspondents.—The Dean of Westminster exhibited two fine sepulchral urns, recently brought to light in railway operations near the metropolis.—A communication from Dr. Charlton, of Newcastle, illustrated by a series of fac-similes of sepulchral memorials in the counties of Durham and Northumberland, was followed by a discussion on the class of Middle-Age Monuments, rarely inscribed and exhibiting various symbols by which the quality or profession of the deceased was indicated. Lord Northampton and Mr. Westwood cited some memorials of this kind in South Wales. The tombs to which the notice of the Society had been called by Dr. Charlton, frequently bearing the symbol of a pair of shears, had been regarded as a proof of the establishment of the cloth manufacture in the northern counties at as early a period as the fourteenth century. This conjecture does not appear, however, to be substantiated; the shears indicating, according to Dr. Charlton's observations, the interment of a female. Mr. Westmacott, after some remarks on the subject of sepulchral symbols, took occasion to invite the attention of the members especially resident in remote parts of England to the injuries caused by injudicious restoration of churches. He alluded to various architectural remains of value which he had visited during a recent tour for the purpose of examining the church architecture of some of the counties least visited by antiquaries; and said, he had witnessed with regret the still prevalent deficiency of care and judgment in the repair or rebuilding of many parochial churches deserving of preservation. These remarks were followed up by several members present, stating recent instances of the destruction of ancient works of architecture or other Art. Mr. Lamb alluded to the total ruin of a church at Quarrendon in Buckinghamshire, rebuilt by Sir Henry Lee in the reign of Elizabeth, and in which some fine family memorials existed within memory, now wholly destroyed. The fabric had been in a perfect state at the close of the last century. Mr. Westwood complained of the destruction of a curious inscription at Sunning Hill, given in Camden's 'Britannia,' and now lost. Mr. Richardson remarked that the alabaster tombs and effigies of the Minors family in Staffordshire had been removed, and their fate was not known. Lord Northampton recommended to the Society to encourage a more active interest in the preservation of ancient remains,—and suggested that much might be effected through the influence of members resident in various remote parts. He called attention to the frequent discoveries of mural paintings during restoration of churches, and to their interest as examples of Art; the valuable deco-

rations just discovered at Wells, of which Mr. Ferrey had promised drawings for their next meeting,—the curious designs lately found by Mr. Blore in restoring the Church of Caistor, Northamptonshire,—and the design exhibited by Mr. Giles on the present occasion, from the Church of Wellington, Somersetshire, the finest example of painted sculpture, perhaps, yet discovered. Works of this nature could rarely be fully preserved, and it became desirable to obtain careful drawings of them. Mr. Lamb informed the meeting that some striking paintings of this kind had been lately brought to light at Little Kimble, Bucks. Some interesting specimens of Art attracted much notice: such as enamels, contributed by Mr. Trollope and the Rev. E. Jarvis; a choice example of working in metals—a processional Cross of the fourteenth century, lately received from Spain, exhibited by Mr. Forrest, with a beautiful backgammon board of cinque-cento style and most elaborate Italian marqueterie, and other examples of Middle-Age design deserving of attention.—It is stated that the Central Committee have secured the services of Mr. Henry Bowyer Lane as Secretary, in place of Mr. Hudson Turner:—whose continued ill health has prevented for some time past his taking any active share in the proceedings.

DECORATIVE ART.—*June 28.*—“On the Frescoes and Mosaics inspected by the Writer during his recent Journey through Italy,” by Mr. E. Cooper.—Mr. Cooper referred to palaces in Genoa which he says are all more or less decorated with paintings within and without—the architecture being of a picturesque and florid Roman character. The details and the manner in which they are treated form matter for description. One method alluded to as effective and very durable consisted in the etching or scratching away the upper surface of lime, and displaying beneath a lime of a brown or darker colour than that on the surface. The entrance halls, he said, have usually ceilings painted with historical subjects and Raffaellesque enrichment, which are often continued through staircases and chief apartments. This style dates chiefly from about 1530. The paintings were the works of Raphael's pupils. Perino del Vaga decorated the Dorian Palace in an admirable manner; which was described at length as conducing to a rich, glowing, and harmonious result, and displaying much excellent drawing and treatment. This palace is, however, now unfurnished and unoccupied. The decorations in this instance, it was added, are upon red, blue, and black coloured grounds alternating; while another distinct class is elsewhere produced by painting on the lime itself, and thus leaving a light or white ground—as at the Ducal Palace at Florence. Each style, it was contended, possesses advantages:—the white ground being recommended for entrance halls, corridors, &c.,—and the richer full-toned grounds as harmonizing better with the force, tone, and character of fully furnished apartments. Ecclesiastical examples of fresco painting were also referred to. Those in the Church of the Annunciation at Genoa were mentioned as the richest examples which the writer met with. Other frescoes in the Villa Farnesina, and those in the Palazzo Farnese, by A. Carracci, were commented on. A few sketches and a general reference to Mr. Gruner's work served as illustrations to this paper: which concluded by setting forth that in Italy we now find many copyists and mannerists, but no great painters,—the artists of the present day appearing to restrict their efforts to copying the best works of the old masters.

METINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Geographical, half-past 8.
—Royal Academy, 6.—“Lecture on Anatomy,” by J. H. Green, Esq.
TUES. Zoological, 9.—“Mr. Grey’s ‘On New Species of Mammalia.’”—Prof. Owen “On the Anatomy of the Aurochs.”—Mr. Bartlett, with a Model of the Dodo, of the natural size.
WED. Geographical, half-past 6.
THUR. Antiquaries, 8.
—Royal, half-past 8.
SAT. Asiatic, 2.

FINE ARTS

THE NIMROUD ANTIQUITIES.

WE return to our description of the discoveries at Nimroud [see *Athen.* Nos. 1025 and 1027], on the further arrival of sculptured and other remains; all in themselves of considerable interest,—but many, we are sorry to say, so much injured during their

transit as scarcely to admit of particular description. Much of the glass and alabaster is broken to pieces— even pulverized. The ivories, fortunately, are somewhat less damaged, though originally so very fragile from loss of gelatinous matter. But the worst is, that many of the remains which actually reached Bombay have not arrived in England; and some of these are among the more interesting in point of subject, if we may judge from such of Mr. Layard's drawings as we have had the opportunity of seeing.

This last importation from Nimroud consists of twenty bassi-rilievi,—four slabs of cuneiform inscriptions—the long sculptured stone called in previous communications an obelisk—some fragments of bronze, apparently belonging to the furniture of the palace—terra-cotta vases, some of which are glazed with a blue vitrified substance resembling that used by the ancient Egyptians—fragments of glass—three engraved cylinders, or rolling seals, one of which is of transparent glass—beads, amongst which is an Egyptian ornament—a bronze nail with a gilt head—a silver ring—fragments of ivory, delicately carved, some being gilt—two small statues in bronze of stags—one of a sheep—and seventeen of a crouching lion, forming a series of various dimensions, from the largest measuring 12 in. down to the smallest of 1 in. length. These statues of animals are most curious, and evidently important, remains. We are entirely at a loss to conjecture their purpose, unless it be that they are weights; an opinion which we hazard partly from our observations upon a large one in the French collection from Khorsabad, in which a ring is attached to the back, apparently for a handle—which is differently supplied in the case of these from Nimroud—and partly from the fact that on the walls of the Tombs at Thebes there are representations of men weighing rings of gold, the weights used having, like these, the forms of stags, sheep, gazelles, &c. Now, the Latin word *pecunia*, money, takes its name from *pecus*, a sheep—as being the representative of such actual property; and as money in early times had no stamped value, but was always weighed in payment, we cannot but conclude that in like manner the forms of the first weights employed had a similar derivation.

Leaving for the present any further details of the smaller specimens in this collection, we proceed at once to a more particular description of the sculptures; which, for the sake of making our catalogue more intelligible, we will divide into two great classes—the religious and the historical. The latter admits of a subdivision of those which relate to the wars and conquests of the kings of Nineveh from those which pourtray the domestic history and manners and customs of the Ninevites themselves; the king and his ministers being always prominently represented,—as might be expected in the decorations of a royal palace. It is certainly a circumstance of extraordinary interest that the world at this distant period should become acquainted not only with the style of decorating the interior of the palaces of the long-lost Nineveh, but with the minutest habits of its inhabitants:—the details of the sculptures fully corroborating the slender notices that time has spared in the fragments of ancient authors, and rendering us as conversant with the costume and customs of this early people as the more modern tapestries do with the people of the Middle Ages.

Although in the strict order of our arrangement we ought to describe the religious and large historical sculptures first,—yet as these in style and execution closely resemble those that we have so fully detailed in previous papers, we will on the present occasion give the preference to that which is at once the most novel in its character, and interesting and comprehensive as a monument—namely the obelisk.

The Nimroud obelisk is 6 ft. 6 in. in height; the greatest width at top 1 ft. 5 in., and at bottom 2 ft.—the width of the two sides being somewhat less. It is made of a very defective piece of black marble, traversed obliquely throughout its length by a broad vein of whitish heterogeneous matter. The bad quality of the marble indicates not only the deficiency of good and suitable material in the neighbourhood, but an extreme paucity of resources in a nation apparently so great; for to no other cause can we attribute the use of such an unsightly and bad stone for the purpose of so small a monument. We have formerly pointed out that these sculptured remains

are far from remarkable for artistic beauty,—and this obelisk forcibly illustrates our observation. For, however interesting as an historical document, as a *work of art* no one can rate it highly; and we ourselves are by no means inclined to place it on a par with any Egyptian obelisk—or even to compare it with that of the Fayoum, which bears fully as many figures. There is a want of precision in the Nimroud specimen, shown in the lines intended to be straight and the spaces intended to be equal, but all far otherwise—a repetition and feebleness of invention and a carelessness of execution throughout that will ever keep it low in the scale of Art. The form of this monument is not, correctly speaking, that of an obelisk; for the top is surmounted by three steps, and it is far from square in plan. The whole of the upper part, including the steps, is thickly inscribed with cuneiform characters. Each side is then divided into five compartments of sculpture, with cuneiform characters between and along the sides; and the base for 1 ft. 4 in. in height is surrounded by entablatures of cuneiform inscription, containing twenty-three lines.

The first compartment of sculpture represents the great king, who, holding two arrows, and attended by his eunuch and bearded domestic, the captain of his guard, receives the homage of a newly-subjugated province, to the government of which the person standing erect before him is constituted governor. The king seems to be in the act of presenting the arrows and a bow, as insignia of office. High in the back ground, between the great king and the satrap, are two remarkable emblems: one resembling the winged globe of the ancient Egyptians—the other a circle surrounding a star. The same emblems occur on other sculptures from Nimroud, and near the figures on the rocks of Naher el Kelb. As regards the meaning of the emblems, we take one to be a contraction for that figure of the Divinity which accompanies the king to battle in one of the reliefs of the former collection: but why accompanied by the globe—which in the representation on the next compartment is on the right instead of on the left side—we are totally at a loss to conceive, unless it be to signify that the presentation of tribute was so vast that it occupied from sunrise to sunset.

The second compartment comprises the same number of figures,—and similarly arranged, excepting that the eunuch behind the king holds an umbrella, and in the place of his satrap stands the cup-bearer with his fly-flap. In this representation the forms of the cap and robe of the person kissing the feet of the king are more distinctly delineated, and furnish matter for consideration in describing another compartment at the back of the obelisk.

In the third compartment are two men, each leading a camel of the two-humped species. The men wear the fillet round the head and the short tunic, and are without boots and sandals—the dress being that of a people with whom the king is represented in many of the sculptures of Nimroud to be at war.

The fourth compartment exhibits a forest in a mountainous country, occupied by deer and wolves. This is an episode in the story related on the monument,—intimating the vastness of the dominion of the king of Nineveh, which extended not only over the people, but over the forest and mountains inhabited solely by wild beasts. Thus in Daniel: “And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven, hath he given into thine hand, and hath made the ruler over them all.”—Dan. c. 2, v. 38.

The fifth and last compartment on this side of the obelisk represents a people with whom we have not hitherto been acquainted,—as they have not appeared in any of the former sculptures. They are a short-bearded race; wearing long robes and boots, and a remarkable cap like a bag, the end of which is made to turn back instead of falling towards the front like the Phrygian. These people appear to be the same as those represented on the north wall of the small temple of Kalbshe as enemies of Rauses II.;—but until the inscriptions are deciphered this point must, we apprehend, remain in doubt. In this particular compartment the people carry wood or bars of metal, baskets with fruit, bags and bundles; but on others the tribute offered by the new race—the recent conquest of which the monument appears especially to commemorate—consists likewise of camels, fringed

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cloths, and vases of various forms and sizes. In evidence of the conquest, the actions of the figures must be particularly noted; the prostrate attitude in the first two compartments, and of those wearing the same costume who head the tribute bearers in subsequent representations, being all indicative of fear or respect, as exhibited in the bended back and knee, which as they advance is exchanged for the prostrate posture of submission and homage yet common in the countries from which the monument is brought. The other people of which we formerly spoke as contending with the king in battle bring elephants, monkeys, and baboons with human faces. They are clad in short tunics and wear a fillet round the head,—but are bare-footed.

This completes the description of the front of the obelisk, and gives some idea of the people shown on the three other sides.—These we will proceed to describe on a future occasion.

FINE-ART Gossip.—At a general meeting of the members of the Royal Academy on Monday evening last, Messrs. Robert Thorburn and Augustus Leopold Egg were elected to the two vacant Associateships. Both the candidates are well known to the visitors of our leading metropolitan Exhibition. As a miniature painter, and in a style that attempts the combinations suggested by the study of the old masters, Mr. Thorburn has established a reputation for depth of colour and force of light and shade:—and Mr. Egg's subjects from 'Gil Blas' and Molière, together with his last exhibited work, 'Queen Elizabeth discovering, by consulting her glass, that she has grown old,' were deemed sufficient qualifications for this promotion. There is no doubt that either of these artists, considered by himself, was a deserving candidate for this dignity,—and can justify his election. But it cannot be unobserved that older claims, in other respects of no less force, are habitually overlooked in these contests,—and that certain important branches of Art appear to be just now at a discount in the Academy. With a little seeking, it is perhaps not difficult to find the influences which are at work in producing these results. Figure-Art has the absolute rule of the Academy to-day,—and we believe it is the fact that the Academicians have elected no landscape painter for the last seven years. It is a general effect of the agencies predominating—curious enough to observe—that what is technically called the Eye of the Exhibition has undergone no change in that time:—and a particular effect that grievous disappointments are inflicted in the name of a system, which must be borne as an impeachment of individual merits.

One of the consequences of the present unsettled state of affairs in general,—and of the strained resources of the Treasury in particular—is the reduction of the expenditure on public works. Half the workmen, we are informed, who were engaged on the New Houses of Parliament were discharged a fortnight since:—there being but just sufficient means at command to satisfy the wages of the other half until March next.

Last evening Mr. Wormell delivered a lecture on Asiatic Art—the third of his course on the History, Principles and Practice of Ornamental Art. Confining himself to those countries more especially connected with European history, he commenced with the Israelite Exodus from Egypt; and having given an account of the Tabernacle in the wilderness and the Temple of Solomon, he passed on to Babylon—where the Birs Nimroud, the reputed remains of the Tower of Babel, and of the more recent Temple of Bel, built by Nebuchadnezzar, were made a principal object of notice. He then proceeded to describe the interesting remains of Persepolis, and the remarkable tombs of the Persian kings. He concluded with a brief review of the arts of the Hindoos:—referring more particularly to the excavated Temples of Elora and the characteristic decorations of their pagodas. The lecture was illustrated by numerous drawings prepared for the purpose.

Mr. James Wyatt has just completed a bust of the size of life of the late Lord George Bentinck and Count D'Orsay a miniature bust of the same nobleman. There is what Pope called "a nobleman look" about Mr. Wyatt's bust, which Count D'Orsay has only partially caught; though Mr. Wyatt has missed somewhat of the exact similitude of the features. Surely the left nostril in Count D'Orsay's

beak is far too much dilated and the amplitude of neckcloth a little out of keeping. Count D'Orsay should know that there are proprieties in Art as well as in dress.

An ingenious discovery, likely to be useful to collectors of old engravings, has just been made by a young man—a Mr. Baldwin. It is, the means of splitting into two parts one sheet of paper, so as to separate the engraving in front from the text which may have been printed at the back—often to the obscuring of the former. We have seen a leaf thus divided; in which the one part shows the engraving perfectly clear from the previous confusion of the lines that showed through—the other exhibiting the text as if it had been printed on a page with a clean back. Each page is as sound as if it had been originally of a distinct fabric. The discovery will probably be valuable applied to drawings by the old masters; who were frequently in the habit of making studies on both sides of the same piece of paper. We are curious to see if the agency by which the separation is effected—and which, for obvious reasons, is yet a secret—be such as may be applied to drawings without chemically disturbing their constituents. The application of the means to letters and manuscripts for mounting and illustration is obvious. We will return to the subject when we have fuller information.—Since writing the above, we have seen Mr. Baldwin's discovery applied to the division of the leaf of a common newspaper. A sheet of the *Illustrated London News*, on which was printed the woodcut from Macleish's large picture of the 'Knight armament for Battle,'—exhibited at the Royal Academy last year,—being so divided, presented the engraving free as if it had been printed on very thin paper—like an India-paper impression. Some prints from the *Pictorial Times* were similarly treated,—and all with equal success.

Among the many objects of taste which the disturbed state of the Continent has transported to our shores, there is perhaps none of more interest than a cartoon for a picture lately purchased in Florence by Mr. Chambers Hall. The subject is a Virgin and Child, attended on by two saints—one a Franciscan, wearing the habit of his order, the other a bishop, as indicated by the mitre which he wears. It is the work of Gio. Antonio da Verzelli, ordinarily named Razzi, known also as Sodoma. We know of no other work in this country by the same master. It is in Siena, the land of his adoption—or in the Farnesina in Rome, where, commissioned by Agostino Chigi, the famous Siennese merchant, he executed important frescoes—that we are to look for the manifestations of his power. Few of his works are known out of those localities; and it is therefore an acquisition to the country to possess such a study of so rare a master. The drawing possesses a combination of qualities. The head of the Virgin, while it may be likened for grace to Raffaello, for suavity resembles Leonardo and Luini. The action of her figure and that of the infant Christ remind us much if not of Buonarotti then of the Frate Bartolommeo. That want of perspicuity, arising from absence of immediate reference to nature, for which this artist's works are proverbial is so conspicuous here as to justify the observation that he wrought *per pratica*. As a design, the picture is in a style so fine as to make us desire that it might find a place in our National Museum.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* states that two colossal horse-tamers of Carrara marble, by Hofer,—executed by order of the King of Würtemberg,—have recently been placed in the Royal Park of Stuttgart. They are described as "full of life, vigour and movement." The animals are formed after the model of the Arabian horse,—the king entertaining a predilection for that race.—The same paper states that the middle window of the "Stiftskirche," at Stuttgart, is now adorned by a large glass painting, consisting of two compartments; the larger representing the Crucifixion—the smaller the Entombment. This work of

Art is designed by Neher and painted by the Brothers Scherer of Munich.—Among the pictures in the Exhibition at Cologne, A. Schroeder's 'Faust in Auerbach's Keller,' after Goethe's fiction, deserves to be particularly noticed. "The artist," says a correspondent in the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, "has given us unconsciously an allegory of the doings of the present day. What else do we see but revellers intoxicated with the wine of Liberty? There where the

liquor overflows, red flames are rising,—and behind the tumultuous uproar the devil stands grinning his Den Teufel spürt das Voiklein nie
Und wenn er sie beim Kragen hätte."

The doings literary or artistic of our periodical contemporaries are not formally before us for comment—and it is not often that we go out of our way to take critical notice of them. The pictorial leader, however, in last week's number of *Punch* is a production so striking that we are tempted to turn out of our ordinary course for its sake. Within the compass of an epigram we have there a great epic—and the pencilled jest passes out of its professional domain into the region of the sublime. The humour of the intention has grown majestic in the execution. The title is "The Great Sea Serpent of 1848;" and our readers must look at it if they would feel its meanings as we do:—but thus they are in our prose version. Upon sea dark and wild with tempest, the Sovereigns of Europe are tossing in one frail boat that has neither oar nor sail. The name of the boat is the *Ancien Régime*; and the rudder is in the hand of King Louis Philippe—who has steered it into a fearful and majestic Presence. Right in the course of the boat has risen up the great Sea Serpent of 1848! Coil after coil of the monstrous reputation shows amid the seething waters, to the very limits of the plate; suggesting fold after fold of the same Terror stretching beyond what that can hold or kings can see—save with their fears. The neck rears itself out of the waters, crowned by a woman's face, with the calm, stern, passionless, majestic look of Egyptian sculpture—only more threatening; and on the Phrygian cap is written "the name of the Beast"—LIBERTY. The scared look of the royal puppets, brought thus suddenly into presence of the great social secret which the Sea of Ages has kept from them so long, contrasts wonderfully with the grand, still expression of the face which seems immortal for time, as the body seems endless for space. The picture is all full of fine suggestions. The sovereigns—all "in the same boat"—show like unreal figures in presence of this great and sudden truth. They resemble so many toys carved out of wood, before the terrible apparition that frowns on them like a god.—The sketch is a wonderful one, we repeat. It bears for signature the initial D.:—which represents, we presume, the name of Doyle.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.

On FRIDAY, November the 17th, will be repeated Mendelssohn's Oratorio 'ELIJAH'—Principal Vocal Performers, Miss Birch, Miss A. Williams, Miss Dolby, Miss Duval, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Bridson, and Mr. H. Phillips. The price will consist of above 600 performers—Conductor, Mr. COSTA—Tickets, 2s.; reserved seats 3s. each, may be had of the principal Musicians, at the Office of the Society, No. 6, Exeter Hall, or of Mr. Bowley, 53, Charing Cross.—The Subscription is 1s. 6d. or for reserved seats, 2s. per person, and a sum of money is to be reserved for the Concerts of the last Four Years will be found to be Eleven.—Subscriptions paid before the above Concert will entitle to admission on that date.

THOMAS BREWER, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH MUSICIANS.

The FIRST CHAMBER CONCERT of this Society will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, November the 13th.—Double subscription to the Series of Three, 1s. 6d.; Single Subscription, 1s. 6d.; Single Concert 5s.—Tickets may be obtained at the principal Music Shops.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

For One Month only.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN and the ARMY QUADRILLE every Night. M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that the National Anthem and the British Army Quadrille being nightly received with the most enthusiastic acclamations, they will be repeated on MONDAY and every Evening next week, performed by the grand Concert Band.

The Band of Her Majesty's First Life Guards,

The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Horse Guards,

The Band of Her Majesty's Grenadier Guards,

And the Band of Her Majesty's Coldstream Guards,

MONS. VIVIER.

M. Vivier, the celebrated performer on the French Horn, will make his first Appearance on MONDAY NIGHT.—The Program is varied every Night, and will comprise a Symphony and Overture. Two Instrumental Solos. Two Songs by Miss Miran, with the New Polkas, Waltzes, &c. The Grand Fantasia of the 'Huguenots' will be played on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Doors open at Seven, commence at Eight.

Mozart's Life; with a View of the General History of Music and an Analysis of Mozart's Masterpieces—[Mozart's Leben, &c.]. By Alexander Oulibouchoff, &c. Translated into German by U. Schraibhun.

THE musical amateurs of Russia have of late years formed a group the like of which has hardly been assembled in any country since Austria enjoyed her golden age of pianoforte-playing Prince-Bishops and

Countesses of fifteen quarterings for whose classical fingers Beethoven found it a pleasure to write his Sonatas. We know that Col. Lvoff, the composer of 'The Czar's National Hymn,' is one of the finest quartett-leaders in Europe. Trustworthy witnesses have extolled the accomplishments of the Counts Wielhorski,—the one a meritorious composer, the other a first-class violincellist. To their company M. Oulibicheff must be added; since this biography and eulogy of Mozart is one of the most carefully finished contributions ever made to the musician's library by amateur. The interest excited by it in Germany is proved by its having been twice translated there. If we mistake not, the work has also been rendered into French.

There is scarcely need of an English translation, since few, if any, new biographical facts are here brought forward in addition to those gathered by Mr. Holmes. M. Oulibicheff, however, surpasses our countryman in the careful and minute examination which he has bestowed upon the "Requiem controversy,"—regarding which there can remain little to be said which is not repetition or conjecture. The biography is followed by a historical sketch or essay on the state of Music previous to Mozart's appearance,—which is sensibly, though in some points carelessly, written. But the third part of M. Oulibicheff's work—the analysis, or rather call it panegyric, of Mozart's works and genius with an estimate of the place which they entitle him to occupy in the Temple of Fame—though possibly *cavire* to the general reader, will afford sufficient occupation for the Critic. So elaborately has our author finished this portion of his monograph, that to deal with it carelessly would be an injustice.

Of all the great men who have adorned Music, few, if any, could be named so admirably calculated to conciliate every species of listener as Mozart. Melody, science, clearness, beauty of idea, symmetry of form; a general avoidance of all that repels, as general an appeal to the universal feelings and passions, singular good fortune in the time of his appearance—at which, though much had been indicated, little was exhausted in creation,—a rare facility and fertility in production,—these are qualities which in combination could not fail to enchant the world. And, accordingly, devout beyond example have been the worshippers of Mozart; given to regard his works as the Alpha and Omega of Music—his time as the epoch from which the decline of the art is to be marked: impatient of question, comparison, qualification, and disposed to depreciate every other master's greatness in order to enthronize their idol on the highest pedestal. That this enthusiasm—amiable though it be—tends, like all other fanaticisms, towards confusion, injustice, extravagance, has been long our settled conviction: nor has a more emphatic proof of it been given than in this affectionate *éloge* by M. Oulibicheff. With him, the composer of 'Don Giovanni,' the 'Jupiter Symphony,' and 'The Requiem' could do no wrong. Every bar, in his judgment, has an individuality, a connexion, a significance worthy of being pondered, admired, accounted for—every work has just the right colour, the right quality, the right length, the right difficulty—every style which Mozart attempted had been (so to say) undertaken by his predecessors, has been overdone by his successors. In short, a more ingenuous and sincere effusion of one-sided enthusiasm has not been given to the world of music in our time.

Let us generally ask, whether it is well for any man, on any subject, thus to wrap himself in exclusiveness—thus to limit his mind within the boundaries of a fond and narrow idolatry? There is no line harder to draw than that betwixt latitudinarianism and bigotry—but by those who would keep their sense of enjoyment unimpaired the attempt must be made from time to time. Most especially is it needful in Music—because in that art the personalities of listener or performer are peculiarly seductive. A player on stringed instruments will be disposed to grudge admiration to all chamber-music which he cannot master—to say nothing of his having always, more or less, an impatience of vocal compositions as compared with those in which he himself can bear a part. A chorus-singer, on the other hand, is apt to look jealously upon the orchestral figures which distract the hearer's attention from the inner parts of the quartett, and which hurry or strain the voices. Then, most persons have some physical proclivity towards

either rapidity or languor in *tempo*, which inclines them to the master or the executant who is precipitate or drawing, as may be. There is, lastly, a sort of antiquarian spirit which is liable to mislead its owners. "I have found out a gift," says the *Fanatico*, "the value of which none of you had the intelligence, ingenuity, or patience to discover; and, therefore, mine is the one treasure, and there is none worth having besides!" Now, that each of the moods above indicated has a tendency to shut the ears and blind the eyes cannot be questioned. The "*nil admirari*" humour which your Enthusiast deprecates is not very different in its effects from the dilettantism of which he cherishes with a fervour as self-approving as it is idol-worshipping. The complacency with which M. Oulibicheff dwells on the years bestowed by himself on the study of his favourite master is natural—but may fairly engender question as to the comprehensiveness of judgment of the student who pores over the pages of one author—merely glancing at, in place of taking home to himself, the literature which is made up of many.

Proceeding from general aphorisms to the particular instance before us, we have next to observe that with one section of the world of musicians and thinkers Mozart stands in a place somewhat different from that claimed for him by M. Oulibicheff. They rejoice in his rich gifts, his admirable learning, his instinctive readiness, his prodigious facility. They think that never did Poet's *Cornucopia* team with a more gracious store of treasure. But they can in no point admit his supremacy as regards either idea or effect. Whether his manner be ascribable to chance, circumstance, or to peculiarities of temperament which imprinted one prevailing colour on every work—

grave or gay, lively or severe—

which Mozart showered forth, they cannot for an instant allow that he closed any one branch of composition;—or that there is any production from his pen which is of such solitary excellence in the order to which it belongs as to dwarf every work which went before or has come after it by its final supremacy. Palestrina is still the Lord and Emperor in unaccompanied vocal music. Sebastian Bach has at once anticipated and exceeded his successors in the instrumental Fugue. Handel (with whom, by the way, M. Oulibicheff seems to have but a limited acquaintance) is still the master of choral effect; for who, short of a *Fanatico*'s self, would award to the unfinished 'Requiem' (the solitary sacred work of Mozart which will bear comparison) a supremacy over the 'Messiah,' 'Israel,' 'Judas,' and the Anthems and the Services of "the Giant?" Beethoven is the King of the Quartett, the Sonata, the Symphony. Weber, Mendelssohn (and even Hummel) have far surpassed Mozart in the Concerto.

Neither can the dissentients for whom we are speaking accept the author of 'Don Juan' as the model opera-writer which his votaries so fondly proclaim him. In grandeur he is outdone by Gluck,—also in the passion of recitative. The Statue in the cemetery, fearful as he is, is feeble in the awe which he inspires compared with the Spirits in 'Orfeo,' or the Furies who torment the matricide in 'Iphigenia.' In gaiety, there can be no comparison betwixt Mozart and Cimarosa or Rossini. Charmingly sentimental as is 'Le Nozze' (by our culologist invested with qualities, characteristics and colours which we have never been able to find in it), it is serious, not to say *larmoyant* if measured against 'Il Barbiere.' Compare, for instance, the chamber-scene in Mozart's grand *finale* with the music lesson as given by the Pesarese. Nay, further, the expression thrown into the part of *Donna Anna* is not so intense but that a deeper sadness—more excruciating sorrow—could be uttered by Rossini, when writing the last act of his 'Otello' or the *terzetto* in his 'Guillaume Tell.'

We must add a word on another matter. With regard to the amount of mystical and preconceived meaning, or of subtle intellectual purpose, which the works of Mozart reveal, we are disposed to take issue with his encomiast. He may find the pre-science of Death in 'Don Juan' or the true *Hidalgo* in 'Count Almaviva,' as fondly as he will—he may dress up imaginary dialogues between the musician and Da Ponte his librettist,—he may insinuate how the *maestro* set forth the troubles of the courtship of his own Stanerl in 'Belmont und Costanze'—but the man's whole life, artistic writings, and personal confessions

give a contradiction to this result of an enthusiast theorizing and searching and commenting. If Mozart's music have any distinctive quality, it is that of spontaneity as much as of science. A Beethoven, rugged by temperament, isolated by circumstance, could brood and meditate, and when life and hope waned morbidly, could play with fancies and imports and purposes—trying to force from his art what his art can never produce: but the prodigious child who grew up into the man of pleasure could hardly have nourished all those thoughts, fancies and deep imaginings with which every flourish of his pen is here credited. The monochromatic colour of Mozart's compositions is a proof to ourselves that we are not writing paradoxically. Rich, genial, attractive he could not help being,—but various he could not make himself. There is no possibility of mistaking a line from his hand. We recognize Beethoven's compositions merely by their utter difference from those of any other known master. And we have the familiar, natural and expressive confession of Mozart himself to assure us that these profound purposes and carefully balanced principles entered not into his scheme of art or his laboratory of creation. He wrote as he did because he felt that he must write so,—and could give small reason why. He was facile and obliging as much from disposition as from resource. A singer with a peculiar *staccato* got 'Non mi dir' adapted for her executive powers,—a trombone player who quarrelled with his part was the cause of the present form of the supernatural music of 'Don Juan.' The intellectual, as distinguished from the impulsive, artists make few such concessions as this. They break their materials, *Mozart bent* to his.

For the reasons just propounded, while we thankfully own that by no one has a larger body of lovely creations been added to Music's treasury than by Mozart—we must strongly protest against the *monomania* or *monophilism* in the fullness of which M. Oulibicheff has written. It is possible that on a future occasion we may illustrate our protest by a minute comment on some of the Russian enthusiast's comparisons and examples. In the mean time, his book may be honourably commended to every musical student—with a "caveat."

COVENT GARDEN.—After some score of English "slips 'twixt cup and lip,"—which, taken conjointly with the interrupted run of the piece at Paris, would be sufficient to justify ancient women and other superstitious persons in fancying Auber's 'Haydée' to have been born under an unlucky star—that opera was produced at Covent Garden on Saturday last. Owing to the illness of Mr. Sims Reeves, and his consequent want of self-assurance in the principal part, the performance was in some measure imperfect;—and hence the success, though complete, was not that triumph which more highly-finished execution might have commanded. In every case the attempt to naturalize the musical dramas of the French *Opéra Comique* in a larger theatre must be lost labour unless the most minute and scrupulous pains be taken to bring out every detail of story, action and music. The admixture of spoken dialogue—a difficulty always serious when the interlocutors are expected to discourse as elegantly and pointedly as they sing—becomes doubly pernicious when the plot is so complicated as in the present instance. When discussing 'Haydée' from Paris in January last [ante, p. 43], we indicated how one Loredano, a Venetian admiral (Mr. Reeves), is detected as having committed a dishonorable crime—a trick of false play—by a subordinate officer, Malgenio (Mr. Whitworth). This worthy comes by his secret during a scene of remorseful somnambulism, little less important in its results than poor Amena's apparition in 'Count Rodelpho's' chamber. How Loredano's penitence makes him plan an expiatory marriage with his ward Rafaela (Miss Messent) who is sought by Malgenio, but loves Andrea Donato (Mr. Herbert) son of the nobleman ruined by the Admiral's trickery—how Haydée (Miss Lucombe), Loredano's slave, divines the secret of Rafaela and Andrea's passion, and protects them, not without some unexplained hopes of her own—the manner in which she is compelled to buy her master's safety from his malignant persecutor (who seems strangely willing to marry any one, for the sake of vengeance or contradiction)—and

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the final solution of the difficulty—all these events with their accessory incidents would fill "twelve French romances neatly gilt" were they narrated in order. Therefore, we shall merely recommend the public to study them at Covent Garden. It may go further and find a worse "Winter's Tale."

In our former notice of "Haydée," Auber was described as having strained himself to fit M. Roger, who was anxious that his last "creation" at the *Opéra Comique* should prove him to be capable of succeeding in larger music and upon a larger stage. A second hearing confirms us in the judgment expressed. In every case, indeed, the composer of "Massanillo," admirable as he is for colour, elegance, spirit, piquancy, has failed in the music of passion. The first act of "Haydée" is too pretty and *piccole* in style for serious opera, the last scene excepted;—and in this the musical design falls far below the dramatic situation. The concerted piece at the beginning of the second act is somewhat broader in its outlines; but the duetts between tenor and *basso* (Act 2) and tenor and *soprano*, also Haydée's grand *cavatina* (Act 3), are more ambitious than effective. Some of the lighter portions of the opera, on the other hand, are in their composer's happiest vein. Haydée's first romance, Andrea's heroic couplets with the *quartettino* in which they are framed, and the Venetian serenade for two voices, are elegant and spirited. In the second act the sea song is delicious;—though the composer's intentions are not exactly conformed to in London—since the chorus should be performed with closed lips, as the Germans sing their *brumm-lieder*. This may be thought a trick; but let those disposed to severity remark the exquisite effect of the female voices stealing in, and deny if they can the presence of such fresh and graceful invention as constitutes genius! Then, the chorus of the mariners as the ship enters Venice is genial and joyous. Loredano's romance, too, with the chorus behind the scenes (Act 3) may be praised as expressive. The greatest want in the opera is a better musical close; and if Auber could find for his *prima donna a rondo* as elegant as her first and second solos, suppressing for its sake her patchy *scena*,—the close of which is a mere *solfeggio* written to display Madlle. Lavoye's instrumental facility,—it would be a change greatly to the profit of "Haydée" and to the pleasure of the hearer.

The first English performance of this opera was interesting, as bringing forward a new dramatic songstress, Miss Lucombe:—whose decisive success satisfied, but did not surprise, us. If the Italian adage be true, that the voice makes ninety-nine hundredths of the Singer, no less incontrovertible is it that "intention" will supply the entire century of requisites to the Artist. From the first moment when Miss Lucombe was brought forward to deliver unimportant links of recitative at the Exeter Hall Oratorios we have credited her with this good gift,—not chimerically. In its faith and strength she has studied, and to good purpose. Her voice proves sufficient for even Covent Garden Theatre; being a high *soprano*, the upper octave of which, from D to D in *alt*, is fresh, perfectly in tune, and under command. The quality of the lower register is somewhat more harsh and ready,—but this peculiarity is convertible to the purposes of expression. Miss Lucombe has considerable executive facility, combined with a largeness of phrasing and a depth and sincerity of expression which do not always accompany such accomplishments. In her conception and execution of her two grand duetts there was more of the operatic artist than we have seen and heard from any *cantatrice* on the English stage since Miss Kemble left it. The song of "The Corvette," again, was given with the right joyous ease and spirit. Miss Lucombe's speaking voice is agreeable, and her articulation distinct and intelligent—the best since Mrs. Shaw's. Her action is easy, modest, and appropriate,—borne out by an expressive play of countenance totally clear of grimace or affectation. In short, it is many years since our stage has seen a first appearance so little like a first appearance. Let Miss Lucombe be contented still to rise gradually,—let her on no pretext be tempted into grasping what must be above her reach for yet a while longer,—let her avoid as suicidal the slightest disposition to force her voice,—and the chances of a distinguished reign over the public are all in her favour. This day week her audience, not warned by any puffs preliminary, re-

ceived her courteously, being won, as the opera went on, to discriminating approval and from that to the most cordial admiration. What more could candida desire?

Taking into account the obvious indisposition of Mr. Reeves, and the great length, difficulty, and *finesse* of his part (which calls for attributes having neither existence nor practice save in French opera), it would not be just to criticize his performance too closely. Much remains to be done by him ere his Loredano can be accepted as a complete personation. When he speaks he must not whisper his emotion so that no one can catch it; and the cardinal point of his confession, overheard and overlooked by Maleno, must be wrought out more intelligibly. But parts of his sleeping scene were very good. His singing generally marked his progress by its refinement:—while he gave the repeated couplet in the second act, which the English Andrea had so cruelly vulgarized in the first, with so much energy and spirit as to command an immediate *encore*. Mr. Whitworth sang well; but was rather stiff, being obviously not quite at ease in what must remain to be, however familiarly known, a thoroughly ungracious part. Miss Messent was no less manifestly under the dominion of stage fright.—The music, as a whole, went steadily; but precision and elegance are not, so far as we have yet heard, in the power of Signor Schira, the conductor. The opera is handsomely put on the stage: the scenes on board Loredano's ship and in his palace are very picturesque:—and we are inclined to think that the work will grow in favour in proportion as it is better known and as all the "loops and tangles" of its story are thoroughly unfolded for the delectation of the audience.

On Tuesday Madlle. Nissen made her *début* in "Norma."—So entirely have Madame Grisi and Miss Kemble exhausted the character by their excellent personations, that there is probably only one living *artiste* who could now make it interesting to us—we mean, Madame Viardot-Garcia. Thus, admirable as are the opportunities for display which it affords, the choice was not a wise one:—especially seeing that Madlle. Nissen's powers appear to be vocal rather than dramatic. She possesses a firm, decided brilliant *soprano* voice, trained by an excellent method, but not precisely of such *timbre* or power as befit heroic and tragic opera. Her recitative is in the larger style of the best declamatory school; but the passion, without which the best manner is but the best of mechanism, was not to be heard either in soloquy or in dialogue. Her "Casta Diva" was steadily and well sung:—the menacing *bravura solo* in the final trio of the first act with such force and volubility as to command an *encore*. The well-known "Deh con te," also, must needs be given twice. Madlle. Nissen's English is especially meritorious, considering the short time devoted to her acquisition. All in short that she did was clever, thoroughly-finished, and bespoke respect for her art and for her public.—But she is no Norma.—The *Adalgisa* of Mrs. Donald King made a most favourable impression on the audience: since the part was expressively sung by an agreeable *mezzo-soprano* voice, and gracefully acted. This lady is another illustration of the advance which we have made during late years in operatic accomplishments. No such *secondo-donne* were to be found on our English musical stage a dozen years ago. It may be owing to this progress that Mr. Harrison's *Pollio*, which has stood still since he studied it for Miss Kemble's *Norma*, at Tuesday appeared more peculiar than ever. Mr. Borroni was the *Oroveso*.—The ladies were cordially received, but the present run of "Norma" cannot be a very long one.—Why will Signor Schira take the music at a *tempo* so very moderate?—Bellini's movements will bear no added languors.

HAYMARKET.—On Monday Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean commenced their performances at this theatre, in the characters of *Sir Walter Amyott* and *Lady Eveline* in "The Wife's Secret":—parts of which, as the play is their private property, they have the monopoly. We understand that it is their design to patronize the production of original dramas; but let us venture to hope that they will do so on terms more liberal both to the author and to the public.

They and Mr. Webster have acted wisely in determining to adhere together for a certain term, and thus banish from the stage the starring system.—The reception of Mr. and Mrs. Kean was of the most cordial character.—The tragedy was followed by "Lavater, the Physiognomist": in which Mr. Webster and Miss Reynolds were as attractive as usual. The *Agnes* of this lady is an excellent piece of acting—which has not yet been appreciated.

On Tuesday, Miss Laura Addison appeared for the last time in the character of *Juliet*:—and it was announced that she would not again act at this theatre for a considerable period, owing to her provincial engagements:—this determination, however, seems since to have been altered, and her re-appearance in a new character is promised.

On Wednesday, Mr. and Mrs. Kean again appeared as the hero and heroine of Sir E. B. Lytton's comedy of "Money." We have already given our opinion of their peculiar merits in these characters.

OLYMPIC.—"The Bould Soger Boy," dramatized by Mr. Stirling from Mr. Lover's tale of "Charles O'Malley," was produced on Monday; and introduced to us Mr. Ryan—an Irish actor, eminent for genteel humour—in the part of *Harry Kildare*. *Harry*, as related in the novel, dresses himself up as *Miss Biddy Maccan*, for the purpose of intruding on a party at *Colonel Dashwood's*—and thus gaining opportunity for an elopement with *Miss Dashwood* (Miss Murray). There is an underplot, in which one *Prettyman* is mystified by Harry Kildare and his riotous military companions:—the result being that the ill-used gentleman gives up all idea of the army and of the lady in question. Mr. Ryan is to be commended for the sobriety of his style. His Irish gentleman betrays in ordinary scenes but little of the brogue; in those which require a broader assumption, as in the *Biddy Maccan* exhibition, the actor proves equal to the occasion—and shows resources of more than common opulence. The play was carefully mounted and meritoriously acted.

MARYLEBONE.—This theatre has got up another new one-act piece:—founded on that old but sure source of attraction, the assumption of a humble disguise by a royal person for the purpose of ascertaining the condition of his subjects. *Henry IV. of France*, in the character of a minstrel (Miss Sophia Villars), thus becomes acquainted with the love affairs of *La Fleur* (Mr. Craven) and *Amelia Braville* (Miss Oliver). A confusion arises from *La Fleur* also assuming the disguise of a minstrel—and being in consequence mistaken for the king. This incident gives its title to the piece—"Which is the King?" There was a small part, the *Baron Ridesdorf* (Mr. Ray), *La Fleur's* rival, the humour of which consisted in the mere phrases "ought" and "ought not" skilfully thrown in, and furnishing much amusement.—Mr. T. P. Cooke's engagement is still continued. After the play he took his old character, *Jack Somerton*, in the nautical drama of "Poor Jack." This is one of the best pieces of its class—written neatly and in a good spirit, with discrimination of character and propriety of incident. The interest is skilfully sustained. Mr. Cooke's "Poor Jack" has lost none of its former fire and tenderness. The scene in the desert, where he feels his love for *Eleanor* (Miss Fanny Vining) come gradually over him, like the light of the dawn whose fulness they are awaiting, was very beautiful. Mr. Cooke was efficiently supported.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC Gossip.—At a recent meeting of the managing powers of the Philharmonic Society, Messrs. Benedict, E. Schulz, Signor Crivelli, and Dr. T. Walmsley were elected members, and Messrs. Lindsay Sloper, C. Horsley and Ferrari associates.—The dates for next season's concerts are fixed for the 12th and 26th of March, the 16th and 30th of April, the 14th and 28th of May, and the 11th and 25th of June.

The first meeting for the season of Mr. Surman's Sacred Harmonic Society was held at Exeter Hall yesterday week—the oratorio chosen being "The Messiah." The audience was numerous.

Yesterday week M. Jullien also commenced his Promenade Concerts at Drury Lane, with a congre-

[Nov. 11]

gation more crowded than ever. Many hundreds more of "the pensive public" than could by any magic be peacefully accommodated forced his barricades. The "feature" at present seems to be an arrangement of "God save the Queen," with orchestra, four military bands (!!), organ, &c. &c.;—but the programme also includes pieces of classical music; and, to judge from its outset, the entertainment is likely to command more than its usual popularity.—M. Vivier has arrived.

While nothing is more alien to good taste and good manners than the pursuit of Royalty in its private pursuits, those who write the history of Art and Taste from week to week must not reject illustrations because they present themselves within palace precincts. In their day, King Frédéric of Prussia's three flute Concertos every evening (a desperate infliction!) told significantly of the condition of musical affairs at Berlin during his reign—in brief, a military despotism. The figure, again, of melancholy Weber "wasting his sweetness" and his fancy at the piano-forte while the Saxon Court was sitting at dinner, may be accepted as symbolizing pompous patronage and phlegmatic indifference combined. A thousand other illustrations crowd upon us, from Napoleon's implacability against Cherubini to the vocal performances of the Duchess de Rianzare:—but we have sufficiently explained our reason for going "Windsor way." There seems now to be scarcely a performance of evening music in the Royal presence without a stringed Quartett by one of the great German masters forming an item. No courtiership will make compositions so scientific in quality, and whose length involves protracted silence among the listeners, fashionable with those who are otherwise indisposed to them. But as arguing a desire for the best things in Art, and as setting an example to those who are waiting to follow examples set, the published programmes of Her Majesty's home-concerts are too interesting and significant to be passed over.

We call attention to the case of Davidson v. Bohn, recently adjudged at Guildhall:—in which the disputed property consisted of the words to the songs "Said a Smile to a Tear," "Home, sweet Home," and "Fill, fill the Glass" (*Caspar's* drinking song in "*Der Freischütz*"). It is our hope that these reiterated controversies may lead not merely to a settlement of the law on all points of musical copyright, but to an increased precision of contract betwixt those who buy and those who sell. The words, in the above cases could not be protected, owing to their imperfect assignment. We cannot forbear adding, that to find such "namby-pamby" the subject of litigation as a covetable possession speaks more comically than creditably for the taste of our singers.

It is reported that Dr. Wesley has been engaged by the Committee of the Birmingham Festival to perform upon the organ at their meeting of 1849.—Opera rumour the newest asserts that the "Amalgamation" of the two rival houses is less likely to take place than ever; but that some changes may be expected at Covent Garden,—among others the giving up of *ballet* performances. This, we think, would be a wise measure; since all general interest in dancing has been for the present destroyed by "the forcing system"—while there exists no *danses* sufficiently fresh, graceful, original, or intelligent to fill the treasury from the purses of a public grown indifferent to the entertainment.

This year the fogs of November offer no bulwark to Londoners hating music against the incursion of some of its choicest pleasures. We observe that the Poles, at their coming ball and concert at Guildhall, are about to be assisted by the most distinguished of Polish musicians, M. Chopin; who for nationality's sake breaks his vow of not playing in public.

Mdlle. Lind's operatic performances in the country have closed: it being necessary for M. Roger, the tenor of her *corps*, to repair to Paris, to take part in the rehearsals of "*Le Prophète*"—which, it is added, were to begin on Thursday last. Every new rumour of the kind loads M. Meyerbeer with an additional responsibility. There is hardly a possibility of a half-success for an opera so long projected, and which will have been talked about under who knows how many reigns before it is brought to a hearing.

We adverted last week to the stock-reports

which come in at the "dead season" of the year. There are stock musical stories which are no less sure to reappear on due provocation. From the days when Gavaudan "got up" "*Le Défîre*" at Charenton, and Ambrogetti qualified himself for his great part in Paer's "*Agnès*," there has hardly been a successful opera including a scene of madness which has not been accompanied by its *coulisse* anecdote of "study from the life" undertaken by the Artist. The newest one is graced with a ruefully whimsical close, at once original and suggesting that a period should be put to such absurdities. The new opera at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris is "*Jeanne la Folle*"; and the *Gazette Musicale* informs us that Mdlle. Masson, who personates the principal character—like her predecessors, anxious for truth—repaired to *La Salpêtrière* to make her observations. Her close attention to one of the patients so far excited the frenzy of the poor creature that she flung the bowl of scalding soup over which she was engaged in the face of the mother of the actress, Madame Masson, who fainted on the spot! Let us hope that this libation will put an end to such mistaken studies. Were they reasonable or necessary, a Siddons must have watched a wife compelling a cowardly husband to murder his king and the ghastly sequel ere she could have rightly presented *Lady Macbeth*. But our case and caution will be found most neatly put in the Byron anecdote (*vide Moore's Memoirs*)—which tells how the play-goer when asked whether he did not find Miss Kelly's acting in "*The Maid and the Magpie*" painfully natural, replied "I can't tell—I never was innocent of stealing a silver spoon."

Yet another baritone, M. Lefort, has been tried at the *Grand Opéra* in Ashton's part in "*Lucia*" without success.—"Tartini," a *ballet* for Mdlle. Cérito and M. St. Léon (in which, we presume, the violin of the latter will be called into play), is in active preparation.—M. Bauche, a tenor, who is to make a sensation in "*Les Montenegrins*" (the opera to follow M. Halévy's), is expected at the *Opéra Comique*.

The theatrical journals have lately been drawing attention to the number of first-rate performers who are now without metropolitan engagements. Amongst these are Miss Helen Faust, Miss Cushman, Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Nisbett, Miss Fortescue, Miss Vandenhoff—Mr. Macready, Mr. Vandenhoff, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Farren:—names which present at least a nucleus for a powerful company. It is thence argued that another theatre is wanted, and should be secured for the exhibition of so much unemployed talent. Without discussing this point, it is at any rate interesting to record the fact. Previous to the liberation of the stage by the legislature in 1843, the complaint was of an opposite kind. It was said that there were not professors sufficient in number and merit to compose a single good company,—and that therefore the conduct of a theatre was an unsafe speculation. The reason for that condition of the stage was obvious. Monopoly, by limiting the arena for exertions, and "driving young ambition to despair," had discouraged persons of education from becoming provincial candidates in the higher branches of histrionic art—and thus reduced the number of meritorious performers to a few. These reaped for awhile the benefit of the monopoly by extorting higher salaries than had ever been paid before. But when the new law came into operation, and smaller theatres could be opened for legitimate performances, a market was suddenly found for younger and cheaper talent. The result has been that after a trial of four short years it has been found possible to satisfy the public with the impersonation of the highest characters in tragedy by individuals whose names previously were not heard of in the profession.

On Tuesday a meeting of the members of "The General Theatrical Fund" was held at the Lyceum; when it was reported that the fund was progressing, but that its objects as yet want publicity. The institution is designed to include the members of the entire profession, provincial as well as metropolitan;—all are entitled to partake in its proposed benefits. It was stated, that the funded capital exceeds 4,000l.;—that an addition of 5l. per annum had been made to each of the annuitants of 25l. elected in 1846;—and that Her Majesty is now an annual subscriber of 100 guineas.

MISCELLANEA

The Cholera.—We printed the manifesto of the Board of Health, containing their opinions and recommendations in reference to this impending calamity. We will now extract from the remarks and instructions of the Committee appointed to the same end by the College of Physicians so much as will show at once their general agreement with the former, and those matters of detail in which they differ.

They say:—that in a district where cholera prevails no appreciable increase of danger is incurred by ministering to persons affected with it, and no safety afforded to the community by the isolation of the sick. The disease has almost invariably been most destructive in the damp and ill-shit parts of the towns it has visited. A state of debility or exhaustion, however produced, increases the liability to cholera. The Committee, therefore, recommend all persons during its prevalence to live in the manner they have hitherto found most conducive to their health; avoiding intemperance of all kinds. A deficiency of nourishing food, warm clothing, and speedy change of camp garments, regular and sufficient sleep, and avoidance of excessive fatigue, of long fasting, and of exposure to wet and cold, more particularly at night, are important means of promoting or maintaining good health, and thereby afford protection against the cholera. The Committee do not recommend that the public should abstain from the moderate use of well-cooked green vegetables, and of ripe or preserved fruits. A certain proportion of these articles of diet is, with most persons, necessary for the maintenance of health. The Committee likewise think it not advisable to prohibit the use of pork or bacon; or of salted, dried, or smoked meat or fish, which have not been proved to exert any direct influence in causing this disease. Nothing promotes the spread of epidemic diseases so much as a want of nourishment; and the poor will necessarily suffer this want if they are led to abstain from these articles of food on which, from their comparative cheapness, they mainly depend for subsistence. The Committee also recommend the establishment of dispensaries in those parts of the town which are remote from the existing medical institutions; and distinct cholera hospitals, which it will require some time to organize, and which they believe will be found to be absolutely necessary should the epidemic prevail in this metropolis with a severity at all approaching that which it manifested on its first appearance in England. In conclusion, they urge on the rich, who have comparatively little to fear for themselves, the great duty of generously and actively ministering to the relief of the poor while the epidemic prevails; bearing in mind that fuel, and warm clothing, and sufficient nourishment are powerful safeguards against the disease.

A Natural Mistake.—A National Guard was walking into St. Paul's, when he was stopped for the ordinary twopenny. "*Qu'est que c'est?*" said the astonished Frenchman. "Twopence," exclaimed the clerical doorkeeper. "Plaît-il?" inquired the Frenchman. "Twopence," shouted the twopenny janitor, getting very wroth. After numberless explanations, the twopence was paid,—and the Frenchman walked in. "Hello! you Sir, you must take your hat off." No notice was taken; when the enraged doorkeeper ran after the Frenchman, and explained to him very warmly that he must not walk about with his hat on. "Pardon mille fois," said the National Guard removing his shako,—"mais je ne savais pas que c'était une église!"—*Punch*.

The Trigonometrical Survey of London.—The last piece of scaffolding built for the purpose of enabling the Sappers and Miners to make a trigonometrical survey of the metropolis and surrounding counties has been moved from the gallery above the dome of St. Paul's. Although the scaffold was only up three months, the observations taken were between 3,000 and 4,000,—in which were included every division in the degree. In many instances the same subject was gone over as many as six times—none less than three or four. The utmost distance obtained was 26 miles in the circle, with the exception of the north-west point; here Highgate Hill impeded the observations, the crown of the hill being higher than the level from which the observations were taken. With this single exception no difficulties presented themselves, and the survey and the various altitudes obtained are of the most satisfactory description. In the language of the parties engaged, the metropolis and the surrounding counties may be considered nearly a level plain. Although below it was repeatedly misty, the atmosphere was exceedingly clear above, —which enabled the Sappers and Miners repeatedly to obtain the utmost limit of their survey. The extreme height of the scaffolding, from the base to the crown, upon which the observatory was built, was 91 feet, and it took between a fortnight and three weeks in raising. As the whole was bound together with ropes, about half a ton was used for the purpose. It may be gratifying to know that in this perilous undertaking not the slightest accident—not even to the

breaking of a single pane of glass—occurred, while only some of the corners of the planks were chipped off during the removal. The most dangerous part of the work was the fixing of the poles which supported the cradle immediately beneath the principal dome. These extended beyond the gallery 35 feet, and great skill and caution were requisite in fixing, as well as in removing them; for had the slightest slip occurred, no power could have prevented them falling through into the church.—During the period the scaffold was up, the lead-work of the upper dome was repaired.—*Globe.*

The Screen in Westminster Abbey.—Having noticed your recent remarks on the changes lately made in the Abbey by the architectural surveyor, Mr. Blore, —in which I most entirely concur—I shall be obliged by you informing me if the public are also indebted to the same authority for the wretched screen that divides the choir from the nave—through a door in which the choir is entered?

BRITISH ARTIST.

Man over Niagara Falls.—An American paper has recently given the following painfully interesting narrative.—

At about sundown on the 1st inst. a man was carried over the Falls. Who he was is not known. From his management of the sail-boat in which he came down the river, I think he was not well acquainted with the current of the Rapids. His dress and appearance indicated respectability; and after he got into the Rapids his self-possession was most extraordinary. His boat was a very good one—decked over on the bow, and I should think would carry three or four tons. From what I learn of a sail-boat having been seen below Black Rock, coming down, I think it is from there or Buffalo. No other than a person unacquainted with the current above the Rapids would venture so near them. I was on the head of Goat Island when I first discovered the boat—then near half a mile below the foot of Navy Island, and nearly two miles above the Falls. There seemed to be ten or twelve fathoms of water above the American Falls—the wind blowing from this shore, and still the sail was standing. Being well acquainted with the river, I regarded the position of the boat as extraordinary and hazardous, and watched it with intense anxiety. Soon I discovered the motion of an oar, and from the changing direction of the boat concluded it had but one. While continually approaching nearer and nearer the Rapids, I could discover it was gaining the American shore, and by this time it had got near the first fall in the Rapids, about half a mile above Goat Island, it was directly above the island. There it was turned up the river, and for some time the wind kept it nearly stationary. The only hope seemed to be to come directly to Goat Island: and whether I should run half a mile to give alarm, or remain to assist in the event the boat attempted to make the island, was a painful doubt. But soon the boat was again turned toward the American shore. Then it was certain it must go down the American Rapids. I ran for the bridge—saw and informed a gentleman and lady just leaving the island, but they seemed unable to reply or move. I rallied a man at the toll-gate—we ran to the main bridge in time to see the boat just before it got to the first large fall in the Rapids. Then I saw but one man—he standing at the stern with his oar, changing the course of the boat down the current, and as it plunged over he sat down. I was astonished to see the boat rise with the mast and sail standing, and the man again erect, directing the boat toward shore. As he came to the next and to each succeeding fall he sat down, and then would rise and apply his oar in the intermediate current. Still there was hope that he would come near enough to the pier to jump,—but in a moment it was gone. Another, that he might jump upon the rock near the bridge—but the current dashed him from under the bridge, breaking the mast. Again he rose on the opposite side. Taking his oar, and pointing his boat toward the main shore, he cried, "Had I better jump from the boat?" We could not answer,—for either seemed certain destruction. Within a few rods of the Falls, the boat struck a rock, turned over, and lodged. He appeared to crawl from under it,—and swam with the oar in his hand till he went over the precipice. Without the power to render any assistance—for half an hour watching a strong man struggling with every nerve for life, yet doomed with almost the certainty of destiny to an immediate and awful death, still hoping with every effort for his deliverance—caused an intensity of excitement I pray God never again to experience.

The Mississippi.—The Mississippi River runs through nineteen degrees of latitude, a space extending from the northern part of Ireland to the Rock of Gibraltar. At its source the winters have the rigour of those of Norway, and at its mouth the seasons are those of Spain. The fir and the birch grow about its northern springs,—and the palm, the live oak, and orange, at the Belize. It is closed by ice in November in its northern course; which is melted early in the spring, before it has floated within many hundreds of miles of its mouth. "Lone, wandering, but not lost," it flows for the first 400 miles through a high prairie-like country, until it is precipitated over the falls; then having descended from the high shelf of land it has lately watered, it flows for the next 700 through one of the most beautiful regions.—*New York Literary World.*

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A Bonus, to the sum of 30 per cent. on the actual value of the Policies, was apportioned to the Assured at the First Septennial Meeting, held in the year 1844.

JOSEPH C. BRETTELL, Secretary.

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Head Office, Edinburgh, 3, George-street, London, 82, King William-street.

SPECIAL NOTICE—DIVISION OF PROFITS.

ADVANTAGE OF ASSURING WITH THIS COMPANY BEFORE 1st NOVEMBER, 1848.

This advantage arises from the particular mode of Division adopted in the Division of Profits, the benefits to be derived by way of Bonus at each Division being measured by the number of years a Policy has been in existence, reckoning in each year from 1st November.

THE FOURTH DIVISION OF PROFITS WILL BE MADE IN 1850;

and in participating in that Division, as well as in future Divisions.

POLICIES OPENED BEFORE 1st NOVEMBER, 1848, will thus secure One Year's additional Claim for Profits over Entrants.

In 1850, such Policy will have 3 years' Bonus.

" 1851, " " 8 " "
" 1852, " " 13 " "
" 1853, " " 18 " "
" 1854, " " 23 " "
" 1855, " " 23 " "
" 1856, " " 23 " "

and so on every five years.

In short, it is the principle of a *Renties* applied to the Division of Profits, holding out the prospect of great advantage to those persons who effect Assurance as a provision for their families, or from other prudent motives; as they can thus look forward to increasing advantages as they grow in life; each period of Division they may thus secure *additional benefits*.

LARGE BONUS ADDITIONS are made to the Company's Policies in 1835, 1840, and 1845, which are shown in the Company's Prospectus;

FOR EXAMPLE,

£1,000 assured in 1825 had increased at last division to £1,600.
£1,000 " 1830 " " £1,412 10s.

Since 1844 the STANDARD COMPANY have issued 2,473 Policies, Assuring upwards of One Million Six Hundred and Forty-five Thousand Pounds. The Income of the Company is upwards of One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds a Year.

PETER EWART, Resident Secretary.

London, 82, King William-street, 15th Sept. 1848.

Further information can be obtained (without expense) by application at the Company's Offices or Agencies.

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£ s. d. | £ s. d.

1 15 6 | 1 18 0 | 2 1 6 1 | 2 6 10 | 2 15 9 | 3 5 9 | 4 1 7 | 5 1 8

Reports, Tables, and every information, may be had of the Secretaries.

Edinburgh Office—14, St. Andrew-square.

London Office—12, Moorgate-street.

WILMER OWEN HARRIS, Agent and Secretary.

THE MENTOR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 2, OLD BROAD-STREET, LONDON.

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Vice-President—

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The Right Hon. the EARL of CARNARVON.

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By order of the Board of Directors,

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DIVISION OF PROFITS ANNUAL.

Assurances for terms of years on the LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES.

Increased facilities for travelling.

Examples of Bonuses already declared, and Options.

Age Sum Assured	Annual Pre- mium.	Policy taken out in	Bonus in addition to Sum Assured.	Bonus in Cash.	Permanent Reduction of Annual Premium.	Sum the assured may borrow on Policy.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1837	262 14 3	121 15 11	30 0 0	543 17 9		
1838	237 15 6	108 16 9	17 7 6	494 10 10		
1839	211 18 6	95 16 9	14 17 7	445 0 0		
1840	188 8 4	75 15 10	17 7 6	396 10 10		
1841	165 15 6	62 19 8	16 2 6	347 10 10		
1842	132 2 6	58 17 0	8 1 0	296 12 12		
1843	84 11 8	37 10 0	5 1 1	247 4 5		

Prospectus, with Tables of Rates, &c. may be had at the office, or any of its branches in the country; or, on application, will be forwarded post free.

W. S. B. WOOLHOUSE, Actuary.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 7, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, Old Bond-street, Dublin.

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In 1841 the Company added a Bonus of 2*per cent.* per annum on the sum insured to all Policies of the Participating Class, and in the year they were effected to the 31st December, 1840, and from that date to the 31st December, 1841, an extra *per cent.* per annum was added to the General Premium on the 6th of July, 1841. The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1841, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added in 1841.	Sum added in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,070 16 0
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 16 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,404 16 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 16 0
5,000	6 years	675 0 0	5,575 0 0
5,000	4 years	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
5,000	2 years	225 0 0	5,225 0 0

The Premiums nevertheless are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, where the insurance is for Life. No entrance money or charge except the policy stamp. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

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